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POSTCARD COMPETITION.

IN a recent trade-mark case before the House of Lords, one of the learned Lords in the course of his judgment said it was not very easy to invent a word which could be accepted as a trade-mark. The word "Solio" for a photographic paper was considered an invented word within the meaning of the Act. We offer one guinea for the best "invented word" for any kind of article sold by chemists and druggists which may be sent to us on a postcard during the month of September.

OUR DIARY FOR 1899.

The "C. & D. Diary" is used
 Every day of the year,
 All the year round,
 In thousands of pharmacies
 In every country in the world.

THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1899, will begin a fourth decade of that *sine qua non*, and we anticipate making it better than its predecessors. We have to look far ahead in the preparation of it, because it takes six weeks or more to reach C. & D. subscribers in remote parts of the earth, and we like everyone to have the DIARY in hand by Christmas-time, so that he may make it ready for use on the first day of the new year. By next month we shall be putting it to press. We give this early notice of the matter in order that business houses may get ready their advertisements for the DIARY. There are, we understand, many regular advertisers with us who prefer to give special orders for their DIARY advertisements, and we strongly recommend them to inform our Publisher without delay what space they wish to have reserved. It will pay to take pains in drafting the DIARY advertisements. Each one speaks to buyers every business day of the year all the year round; therefore it is good to make the advertisement comprehensive, explicit, and illustrative of the chief goods and best bargains the advertiser has to offer. We see to the indexing by entering every article advertised in the encyclopedic "Buyers' Guide," which is not the least valuable business feature of the DIARY.

Summary.

THE FRENCH P.A.T.A. has failed (p. 476).

AN IDRIS CARMAN has been killed in the street (p. 473).

MORE WINE-LICENCE DECISIONS are recorded on p. 473-4.

A VENTNOR CHEMIST is accused of grossly libelling an old sweetheart (p. 472).

THE RAMSGATE CORONER is severe upon chemists who give medical advice (p. 473).

PROFESSOR HENRY TRIMBLE, of Philadelphia ("the American Attfield"), is dead (p. 484).

ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN against a Wigan medical man for selling female pills and mixture (p. 473).

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION provides us with thoughts on some recent developments of science (p. 486).

CARBOLIC ACID "is a danger rather than a blessing," says the Clerkenwell Medical Officer (p. 472).

THE TEXT of Professor Behring's reply to his critics *re* the patenting of diphtheria-serum is given on p. 478.

THE BORAX-AND-MUCILAGE MIXTURE still creates difference of opinion deserving of investigation (p. 496).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY in the Transvaal continues to prosper. We report the annual meeting and dinner on p. 481.

AN INTERVIEW with the sculptor of the Pelletier-Caventou statue appears on p. 479, where also is an engraving of the memorial.

IT appears from the report on the Nilgiris einchona-plantations that it costs 2*l.* per oz. to make quinine, apart from the cost of the bark (p. 488).

A SALFORD CHEMIST, against whom a serious accusation was pending, has ended life with an eggcupful of Scheele's prussic acid (p. 472).

NEW YORK DRUGGISTS' ASSISTANTS are still eager to get shorter hours, and "the man from London" tells of the efforts of six of them (p. 477).

"N.O.D." the colonial chemist who complained about the slowness of London wholesale houses, is replied to by about a dozen of them this week (p. 494).

OUR CORRESPONDENCE includes letters on ext. bellad. liq., ext. nuc. vom., the Spectae-makers' diploma, hay-fever, trade-marks in Mexico, &c., and atmospheric nitrogen (p. 495).

NEW CHAMOMILE-FLOWERS are rising rapidly in price. Camphor is firm, creosote dearer, and einchona and quinine maintain their value. Ipecac. is going higher. We report einchona and drug-sales and other market matters on p. 493.

AT THE MEETING OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL in Dublin, on September 7, satisfactory reports were given in about the Health Congress and the B.P.C. A Westminster College certificate was refused, and some changes were made in the regulations for the annual meeting (p. 480).

THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING at Baltimore was a success, but the Scientific Section was not so good as usual. Greater interest was shown in the Commercial Section, over which a former president. Chicago chemists are moving to form a rival association. We print a report of the meeting, with portraits and abstracts of some of the papers (p. 482).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND have tried to get judgments at Belfast against certain unqualified assistants in drug companies' establishments for compounding medical prescriptions. They argue that if the selling of a poison renders an unqualified person liable to a penalty, so equally would the compounding of a prescription. The summonses failed in these cases because the evidence of compounding was not strong enough (p. 491).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Classes for Hanley.

Through the instrumentality of Mr. Edmund Jones, Hon. Secretary of the North Staffordshire and District Chemists' Association, evening classes in botany have been arranged for next session, to be conducted by Mr. W. M. Wilson, M.A., head master of the Hanley Higher-grade School. These classes will be held on Wednesday evenings, from 8.30 to 9.30 P.M., and if a sufficient number of students will come forward a class in elementary or advanced practical chemistry will likewise be formed, and possibly a course of lectures arranged. Those who intend joining these classes are requested to send their names without delay to Mr. E. Jones, Miles Bank, Hanley. The fees for the session will be as follows: Botany, 2s.; chemistry (theoretical), 2s.; chemistry (practical), 5s.

A Lesson on Disinfectants.

At the Clerkenwell Vestry meeting, on Thursday night, the question was again debated as to the use of carbolic acid and powder for disinfecting-purposes. The medical officer (Dr. Glaister), in reply to a member, said it was a fact that several applicants for a free supply of carbolic acid for disinfecting-purposes had been refused. In each case inquiries had been made, and it was found better to send a sanitary officer to remove the cause of the bad smells than to give the people the carbolic acid or powder to cover up the smell. Mr. Stebbings: Does the medical officer still adhere to his opinion that carbolic is no good as a disinfectant? Dr. Glaister: I adhere to my statement that it is rather a danger than a blessing. It gives people a false security. It is rather a deodoriser than a disinfectant, and people imagine that sprinkling any putrid matter with carbolic destroys the possibilities of disease. Mr. Stebbings: Do you say that carbolic acid is not a disinfectant? Dr. Glaister: No, I do not say that. Carbolic acid will destroy disease-germs if used in sufficient quantities; but in the diluted state in which you cause it to be applied it only acts as a deodoriser. In the sewer-flushing, for example, the diluted acid comes in contact with the cause of the smell for a second, and then it is gone. That is not sufficient to destroy any disease-germs. Mr. Johnson: Carbolic is good as a preventive of diphtheria? Dr. Glaister: Bad smells alone do not bring diphtheria. It is the disease-germs that emanate from the causes of those bad smells. And to kill those germs the carbolic should be used in far larger quantities than at present, and should not be entrusted to the people themselves. If any person comes to the Vestry Hall and complains of bad smells, a sanitary inspector is despatched, who can deal more scientifically with the matter than the ordinary householder. The explanation of the medical officer was accepted.

A Chemist's Suicide.

At Salford, Mr. James Stanley Burgess, chemist and dentist, committed suicide on September 9 in a very deliberate manner. The deceased was 52 years of age, and married, and for some days prior to his death he was very depressed. On the day named he left home with a bottle of Scheele's acid in his possession, and two hours afterwards was found dead on a seat in the recreation-ground by a constable. The officer found that the deceased had taken the acid from an egg-cup, and had "swallowed enough," the Coroner said at the inquest, "to poison a whole street." The jury returned a verdict of suicide whilst insane, but next day a new aspect was given to the case. On September 1, the body of Mrs. Hall, the wife of a Salford gas-stoker, was found in a dell or "clough," near Ashton-under-Lyne, under circumstances which pointed to wilful murder. Some time had elapsed before any clue as to the woman's identity was obtainable, but on September 8 (the day before Burgess's suicide) her identity was established and published in the evening

papers. It had been discovered that Burgess had been acquainted with Mrs. Hall as a customer at his shop. A piece of paper containing the words "Victoria (station) No. 7 platform, Thursday five minutes to 2" (apparently in the handwriting of Burgess) was found by the husband in the possession of the deceased woman. Two other notes from Burgess, making appointments for Mrs. Hall to attend his shop, were discovered by the police, and it was also ascertained that about a fortnight ago Mr. Burgess purchased from a neighbouring shop a knife resembling the blood-stained weapon picked up near the murdered body.

Benzoline Hair-wash.

A fatality from the use of a benzoline hair-preparation occurred recently at Margate. The victim was a girl named Clara Lilian Testa, who, on September 3, after washing her hair with a benzoline hair-wash, went too near a lighted gas-stove. Her hair went in a blaze, and she was burnt in so dreadful a manner that death ensued four days after.

Benzine and the Hot Weather.

An inquest was held at Dukinfield, on September 5, respecting the death of a French cleaner employed by a firm at Tame Valley. Deceased was at work in the cleaning-room, beside a kettle which contained about 20 gals. of benzine. The day was very hot, and the benzine suddenly exploded, enveloping deceased in flames. He was taken to Aston Infirmary, but died shortly after admission. Deceased's employer, in his evidence, said the barrels containing the benzine bore labels stating that an inflammable vapour was given off at less than 100° F., but he had never tested the substance to determine the flash-point. A verdict of death from the effect of burns was returned, and, it was added that there was no satisfactory evidence to show how the benzine ignited and exploded.

Alleged Libel by a Chemist.

At the Westminster Police-court, on September 8, James Dunning, chemist, High Street, Ventnor, was charged before Mr. Marsham with publishing false and defamatory libels concerning Miss Ada Brown, daughter of a jobmaster, residing at Buckingham Palace Gardens, S.W. The letters containing the alleged libels were addressed to the father of the young lady in London. Miss Brown, during her holidays, made the acquaintance of the accused at Ventnor, and it was said received an offer of marriage from him. The engagement, if any, was subsequently broken off, and directly after this allegations of unchastity and immorality were made in the communications from Ventnor, the prosecutrix being informed in one that she must distinctly understand that her father would hear of her past behaviour. Dunning said that the letters he had written were marked "Private," and that he was perfectly willing to meet the charge. The prisoner was remanded on bail.

At the adjourned hearing, on September 13, Mr. Hughes (for the prosecution) said prosecutor (Mr. J. S. Brown) had been in the habit of taking his family to Ventnor every summer, where they lived in the care of his mother. Defendant, whose shop was patronised by the Misses Brown, fell in love with Miss Ada and was rejected, but after pathetic letters and threats of suicide, was accepted. The young lady then made a communication to the defendant as to someone trying to take advantage of her when a child. After this the engagement was broken off, and letters were written by defendant which were described as gross and scandalous attacks on the young lady's character. The brother of the young lady (Mr. C. Brown) said he had threatened the defendant with a thrashing, but subsequently when calling at defendant's shop he was locked in and beaten with a stick by defendant's mother. Both defendant and his mother on that occasion imputed the grossest immorality to all his sisters. Mr. Dutton (for the defence) denied the allegations of the young lady's brother, but tendered an apology to the young lady and her parents for the letters, which he asserted defendant had written while under the influence of overdoses of bromide, chloral, and other drugs, and while he was not responsible for his actions. Mr. Hughes said the matter was too serious for an apology to be accepted now, and defendant was committed for trial to the October sessions of the Central Criminal Court, bail—two

sureties of 100*l.* and his own recognisances of 200*l.*—being accepted.

A Doctor Committed.

At the Wigan Police Court, on September 8, Dr. William Robinson was charged on remand with dealing in certain noxious drugs for an unlawful purpose. For the prosecution it was stated that the sub-postmaster at Shap, on opening the mails on July 8, found a broken packet addressed to "T. Robinson, Esq." (postmaster at Shap and prisoner's brother), which contained a number of pills, a bottle of brown liquid, and a letter from Dr. Robinson giving instructions as to how the medicine was to be administered, and asking that the matter should be kept quiet. This packet he forwarded to the postmaster at Penrith, who communicated with the private secretary to the Postmaster-General, who in turn communicated with the Home Office, and the matter was taken up by the Public Prosecutor. The medicine and pills were forwarded to Dr. Stevenson for analysis, and the Home Office analyst gave evidence that the pills contained as their essential ingredient croton oil in a large dose, and that the bottle contained 1*½* oz. of liquid extract of ergot. From the instructions given by prisoner the medicine given would be liable to bring on abortion. Ergot ought not to be given unless there was some medical reason for getting rid of conception. For the defence it was alleged that the source of the prosecution was the sub-postmaster at Shap, who was bitter against Mr. Robinson, the postmaster, by whom he had been reported several times for tampering with letters, and who had trumped up this charge to gratify personal spleen. The Magistrates, however, after considering the case, thought a *prima-facie* case had been made out, and committed the accused for trial at the Borough Quarter Sessions.

Alleged Embezzlement.

James Henry Hyam, residing at Blackburn, described as a commercial traveller, in the employ of Messrs. Joseph Crosfield & Sons, soap-manufacturers, Warrington, was charged at the Warrington Police Court, on September 8, with embezzling 34*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* from his employers, and further with appropriating, on divers dates, moneys to the extent of 74*l.* Mr. Brown, for the prosecutors, said the prisoner was their representative at Blackburn. It was his duty to pay accounts into the bank there, and advise the firm that the amount had been paid in. An account produced, dated July 25, stated that he had paid 34*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* into the bank at Blackburn. The manager of the bank made inquiries, and the prisoner then admitted defalcations to the extent of 74*l.* Counsel asked for a remand, which was granted, prisoner being allowed bail, himself in 100*l.* and two sureties of 50*l.* each.

The Worthless Cheque Swell.]

At the County of London Sessions, on September 10, before Sir William Quayle Jones, Josslyn Robert Augustus Riley, who was convicted a short time ago of defrauding Mr. J. J. Minville, an assistant with Mr. J. Morgan Davis, chemist, Coventry Street, W., by means of a worthless cheque, was put in the dock to receive sentence. Evidence was given showing that prisoner was well connected, and that, having become associated with the convict Monson and his friends, he had gone through 11,000*l.* in about two years. Riley's stepfather, a clergyman, was in court, and it was intimated that his friends would make arrangements for ending him out of the country. His Lordship said if these promises were satisfactorily carried out he would at the next sessions bind Riley over in sureties.

Idris Carman Killed.

Mr. Braxton Hicks held an inquest at Lambeth, on September 9, on the body of Peter Grainger, a carman, lately in the employ of the Idris Mineral-water Company, of Camden Town. Deceased was driving a pair-horse van in Treatham High Road, when he collided with a greengrocer's cart, and as a result of the collision Grainger fell from his cart on to the road. He was taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, but died from the effects of a fractured skull and laceration of the brain. The Coroner remarked on the folly of carmen driving without waist-straps, and the jury returned verdict of accidental death.

Spirit of Salt in a Kaoa-bottle.

At Battersea, on September 7, Mr. Braxton Hicks held an inquiry into the death of Henry Thompson, a carman, who died from the effects of poisoning. The evidence showed that on July 7 deceased was found by a constable on Tooting Bec Common lying upon a heap of rubbish. He was almost unconscious, and a bottle labelled "Kaoa" was discovered near him. Deceased found the bottle lying on the common. It was three-parts full, and he drank the contents, which proved to be spirit of salt. The jury returned a verdict of death from poisoning.

Vinegar of Cantharides as a Poison.

At Newark, last week, the daughter of a tradesman named Porter, who was suffering from depression, consequent upon the recent death of her sister, drank a quantity of acetum cantharidis, and died in two hours. Dr. Job, who was called in, said the application had been used as a liquid blister for the sister, who died recently, and who suffered from a brain-trouble. The preparation was a deadly irritant poison, and although the stomach-pump and antidotes were used promptly they were without avail. A verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was returned.

Salts of Lemon for Epsom Salt.

A strange poisoning-case was investigated at Rochdale last week, the deceased being an old man of 73, who died on the previous day. About a month ago the deceased drank some salt of lemon in mistake for Epsom salts. He seemed to get over the immediate effects of the poison, but gastritis subsequently developed, and he died. A verdict of death by misadventure was returned.

The Chemist's Diagnosis is of No Value.

An inquest was held at Ramsgate, on September 10, on the body of a one-year-old boy, the son of a London visitor. The child had been suffering from diarrhoea, and a chemist's assistant, to whom it was taken for treatment, is alleged to have recommended castor oil, and a change of diet to arrow-root. The child got rapidly worse and died, and the doctor who was called refused to certify death, which occurred before his arrival. The Coroner (Mr. F. W. Hardman), in summing-up, said the only matter on which he wished to make any remark was the fact that when the child got worse it was taken, not to a doctor, but to a chemist. This was a practice that prevailed very widely, presumably from motives of economy. The idea seemed to be that advice could be had for nothing, and that only the drugs supplied were charged for. He wished to say that the practice was an unfortunate one, and should be stopped. It was dangerous for the patient and unfair to the chemist. A chemist was, no doubt, a skilled person, who had qualified himself for his business by special training and passing examinations. But this training had to do with the properties and the dispensing of drugs, and not with their effect in particular cases upon the human body. A chemist's diagnosis of disease or illness was of no more value than that of any other layman. He (the Coroner) had little doubt that the change of food recommended by the chemist's assistant had been hurtful to the child. He also wished to point out that chemists who took upon themselves the functions of medical men by prescribing for the sick rendered themselves liable to heavy penalties, and might get into serious trouble. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, and hoped the observations of the Coroner would be noticed by the Press.

An Obliging Analyst.

Dr. John Muter, public analyst, wrote recently to Rotherhithe Vestry stating that he was quite willing to meet the Vestry in its laudable endeavour to limit the expenses of working the Sale of Food and Drugs Act by accepting a fixed annual salary of 120*l.* for the performance of the duties of public analyst for Rotherhithe, with the tacit understanding that the Vestry would not burden him with more than 300 samples a year. The letter was referred to committee.

Chemists and Licences.

At St. Helens Licensing Sessions, on September 7, Mr. John Glover, chemist, St. Helens, applied for an off-wine licence

for his shop in Ormskirk Street. Mr. Thomas, on behalf of the applicant, enumerated a number of medicated wines which were frequently ordered by medical men, and which patients at present could only get from two grocers who held wine-licences. The good character and qualification of the plaintiff were attested by Mr. Swift, chemist, Baldwin Street. Sir D. Gamble asked if the applicant desired to sell a bottle of sherry on condition that he put into each bottle a certain amount of coea or some medical preparation. Mr. Thomas said applicant wished only to sell medicated wines and such preparations as were ordered by medical men. The Chief Constable, in reply to Sir D. Gamble, stated that there were only two off-wine licences in the town, neither of them being a chemist's. The Bench, after retirement, refused the application. Mr. Thomas, after some discussion with the Mayor, thereupon applied on the authority of a decided case—*Gregory v. Swift*—for the Bench to state the grounds on which they refused the application. The Bench retired with the Clerk to consider their reply. On their return the Mayor said the application was refused on grounds 1 and 4—first, that the applicant had failed to produce satisfactory evidence of good character; and, fourth, that the applicant, or the house on behalf of which he applied, was not duly qualified as by law required. Mr. Thomas said he had already told the Bench that the fourth ground did not apply to the application. He would now know what course to take.

At the Wokingham Brewster Sessions, on September 7, Mr. J. May applied, on behalf of Mr. William Rush Rednall, chemist and druggist, Market Place, Wokingham, for a retail wine-licence. This was opposed by Mr. R. S. Wood on behalf of the Licensed Victuallers' Association. The serving of the necessary notices was proved to have been made on the Assistant Overseer, and Mr. Wood questioned whether service upon the Assistant Overseer was valid. It depended upon the appointment of the overseer whether his duties were limited or not. At the licensing sessions recently held at Reading [and at Huddersfield, see *C. & D.*, September 10, page 441] this point had been raised, and the Reading Magistrates decided the assistant overseer's duties were limited, and that the notice was invalid. Mr. May said the duties of the assistant overseer of Wokingham were such as appertained to an overseer, and therefore the notice was legal. The Chairman (Sir William Farrer) said the point raised was not free from doubt, and if Mr. Wood chose to carry the matter further the Justices would be glad to assist him in order that the matter might be decided. The objection, however, was a purely technical one, which the Bench was not disposed to encourage unless it was distinctly law. At present, seeing it had been the practice to serve the notices upon the assistant overseer, and that the service had been accepted as a proper one, the Bench was not disposed to entertain the objection. Evidence having been given by Mr. Rednall, and the police superintendent having testified to the applicant's good character, the licence was granted, subject to Mr. Rednall undertaking to sell medicated wines only.

To the list of chemists who have obtained off-wine licences may be added:—

Mr. S. Hutchison, 60 Keighley Road, Cowling.
Mr. W. T. Hicks, 26 Duke Street, Cardiff.
Mr. Richard Frust, Clifton Street, Roath, Cardiff.
Mr. F. Walker, Redcar.

A wine-and-spirit licence has been obtained by:—
Mr. Stephen Wand, 67 King Richard's Road, Leicester.

Prescribing sans Voir.

At an inquest held at Derby on Monday by Mr. Close respecting the death of William Marshall, a porter, it transpired that deceased belonged to a medical association, and that Dr. Arthur Bishop Carey Orchard, who prescribed for him, had not the slightest recollection of ever having seen him. The Coroner asked Dr. Orchard whether he meant to state that he wrote the prescription without having seen the deceased, and the reply was, "It is quite probable; I have done so many times; I have done so five or six times to-day." The Coroner: "Do I understand that you, as a medical man, give prescriptions to a man you have never seen?" The doctor replied that when a man was not too ill to leave work he sent his wife or daughter, who would tell him what was wrong with him, and he would prescribe'

From the prescription in this case he should judge that he had prescribed for some slight torpidity of the liver. Dr. Laurie, who stated that the cause of death was heart-disease, told the Coroner that he should not have prescribed for a patient without first seeing him. The Coroner said the practice, so far as the Medical Association was concerned, was a loose one, and it was wrong for prescriptions to be given when the patients were not seen for weeks together.

Carbide of Calcium and Passing Trains.

The East Ham District Council has refused to grant a licence for the storage of carbide of calcium to Mr. E. Haigh owing to the fact that trains run close to the premises.

Drugs in Glamorganshire.

Mr. Clarence A. Seyler, B.Sc., F.I.C., public analyst for Glamorgan, in his report for the last quarter states that in three samples of milk of sulphur which he examined one was pure and two contained 45 per cent. of calcium sulphate. He adds:—"By the new Pharmacopoeia this impurity should be absent, as the name milk of sulphur is now the official synonym for precipitated sulphur." Three samples of tincture of cinchona were obtained; one was genuine, the other two (one of which was, however, sold as "tincture of bark") were glycerine tinctures containing only 12 per cent. of the active ingredients of the official tincture. The latter were therefore certified as adulterated. Fowler's solution was of good strength in one sample, but another was deficient in arsenious acid to the extent of about 6 per cent. Several samples of alkaloidal tinctures received late are still under examination.

Bovril in the Workhouse.

At the meeting of the Exeter Corporation of the Poor last week the Master of the Workhouse reported that he had made arrangements, by introducing Bovril into the House, whereby he hoped that the consumption of meat would be reduced 120 lbs. a day!

Drugs for the Holborn Union.

At a special meeting of the Holborn Board of Guardians, on Wednesday, tenders for the supply of drugs to the various dispensaries of the poor-law establishments of the Union were considered. There were seven tenders sent in—viz., Messrs. Walker, Troake & Co., who offered 25 per cent. off list-prices; Messrs. Corbyn, Stacey & Co., 37½ per cent. off; Messrs. Hodgkinson, Preston & King, 32½ per cent. off; Messrs. Baiss Brothers, 35 per cent off; Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., 21 per cent. off; Messrs. Davy, Hill & Co., 25 per cent. off; Messrs. Manners & Hopkinson, 26½ per cent. off. Mr. Walton, who moved that Messrs. Corbyn & Stacey have the contract, said that Mr. Eade, who was an experienced chemist and druggist, and Chairman of their Dispensary Committee, had reported that the drugs had been well supplied during the past year. Mr. Scheib seconded, and it was adopted.

Fire.

Considerable damage was caused by a fire which broke out, on September 13, on the premises of Messrs. F. Allen & Sons, manufacturing-chemists, Upper North Street, Poplar.

A Fatal Varnish-accident.

On September 14, an inquest was held at Dudley on the body of a man named John Shirley, who had met his death at Messrs. Hunt's chemical-works, Wednesbury. Deceased, who was heating varnish over a fire, was seized with a fit and fell into the fire, the varnish ignited, and he was speedily enveloped in flames, and the injuries sustained eventually caused his death. The jury did not consider the employers were to blame in any way. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Mineral-water Contracts.

The Holborn Board of Guardians on Wednesday night had before them, amongst other tenders, those for the supply of mineral waters for the ensuing year. There were only two tenders—viz., Idris & Co., and the C.A.M.W.A.L. The Idris prices were as follows:—Soda-water, in syphons, 1s. 6d. per dozen; ditto, in large, screw-stoppered bottles, 11d. per dozen; ditto, small, 8d. per dozen. Lemonade, in syphons,

2s. 6d. per dozen; in large, screw-stoppered bottles, 11d. per dozen; ditto, small, 8d. per dozen. Lithia-water, in syphons, 2s. 6d. per dozen; ginger-beer, in screw-stoppered bottles, 3d. per dozen. The C.A.M.W.A.L. only tendered for the syphon goods—viz., soda-water, lemonade, and lithia-water at 2s. 6d. per dozen. Mr. Laugley and Mr. Gibson respectively moved and seconded that Idris & Co. have the contract, as they had served the Board well in the past. This was unanimously adopted.

Cricket.

The Bolland C.C. (Hodgkinsons, Clarke & Ward) v. Great Northern Hospital.—Played at Bailey's Lane, Tottenham, September 10. Scores: Bolland, 86; G. N. H., 25.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

The Next Preliminary.

The October Preliminary examination will be held on Tuesday, October 4, and the last day for lodging applications for it will be Tuesday, September 20.

The Society's Annual Dinner.

The second annual dinner of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland is fixed for the evening of October 4. The first, which was held last year, was much enjoyed, and a good attendance is anticipated on this occasion.

Non-scheduled Drugs.

At a meeting last week of the Belfast Dispensary Committee attention was called to the exceptionally large requisition for drugs and medicines sent in by one of the local dispensaries. On examination it was found that the requisition included twelve gross of matches and three tons of coal. A sub-committee was appointed to further examine the requisition.

Drug-contracts.

Messrs. John Clarke & Co., chemists, Belfast, have been appointed contractors for the supply of drugs and medicines to the Dungannon Board of Guardians for the ensuing twelve months.

The Guardians of the Milford Union have accepted the tender of Messrs. Thacker & Hoffe, wholesale chemists, Dublin, for supplying the workhouse and five dispensaries with medicines and surgical-appliances for twelve months.

Personal.

Dr. J. V. Byrne, proprietor of the Medical Hall, Drogheda, has been elected Coroner for the borough of Louth. There were two candidates, and, the polling being equal, the chairman's casting-vote resulted in Dr. Byrne's election.

New Pharmacies.

Mr. J. B. Boulger, L.P.S.I., has opened a new medical hall in Main Street, Maryborough, Queen's County.

Dr. Laird, of Limerick, is opening a new pharmacy at the corner of Henry Street and Sackville Street, Dublin.

Messrs. J. Waters & Sons (Limited), chemists, Cork, have added a dispensing-department to their drug and chemical concern.

Mr. W. Vincent Johnston, M.P.S.I., manager of Gordon's Medical Hall, Ranelagh, is about to start business on his own account in the same neighbourhood.

Mr. James Hogg is having a new pharmacy fitted on the Shankhill Road, Belfast. Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, of Liverpool, have the contract for the fittings.

What we have been Saying.

The Dublin *Evening Telegraph*, commenting on the new order of the Local Government Board regarding the supply of medicines to workhouses, says, *inter alia*, if some rule could be devised by which the prices for drugs could be

submitted to experts it would be most beneficial, as in tendering for the supply of drugs to public institutions it is a common practice to estimate for such articles as are rarely used at prices much lower than they can be bought, and to "put it on" in the case of the more frequently used drugs. The L.G.B., adds the *E.T.*, would be doing a service if they could devise a scheme for putting down this system.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

A Historic Pharmacy.

Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co. opened on Monday their fine new pharmacy on the North Bridge, Edinburgh, erected on the site of the old shop, which has been for nearly a century quite a pharmaceutical nursery. The shop has been very handsomely fitted in Maw's best style, and is a model for elegance and convenience.

Golf Competitions.

The fourth competition this season for the "Gibson Handicap Medal" took place last week at the Braids, with the following result:—1st, Mr. George Robertson, 106—14=92; 2nd and 3rd, Mr. M. C. Baker, 106—12=94, Mr. A. M. Stewart, 101—7=94, a tie.

The prize competition on the Edinburgh autumn holiday (September 19) will be held at Carnoustie, one of the finest East of Scotland seaside courses. Train leaves Waverley Station at 7 A.M.

Demonstration of Scientific Industries.

The students of the Glasgow School of Pharmacy (Mr. Lothian, Principal) visited the Longfield Chemical-works of the Scottish Acid and Alkali Company and Sir William Baird's ironworks at Kilwinning on Thursday, September 8. The manager of the chemical-works, Mr. Steadman, conducted the party (which included a number of ladies) over the laboratories and vitriol-factory, and explained the various stages in the manufacture of sulphuric acid. The company also manufacture iodine, iodides, iodoform, &c. The ironworks, which were visited subsequently, cover a large area, and are intersected by a network of railways. The coal is brought from the neighbouring Eglinton pits. The principal ore used is hematite, from Spain, with smaller quantities of clayband and "blue billy." The party was hoisted to the top of the blast-furnaces, and saw them charged with ore, limestone, and coal by the cup-and-cone arrangement. The tapping of two of the furnaces was then seen. It was a magnificent sight to witness about 50 tons of the molten metal run into the "pig" beds. The gases from the blast-furnaces, which were formerly burnt at the furnace-mouth, are passed through about five miles of condensers, and the condensation-products—tar, ammonia, &c.—collected. The ammonia is converted into sulphate and sold as manure. The tar is distilled and the tar-oil sent to chemical-works. The purified gas is returned to heat the boiler-furnaces and stoves for the hot-air blast. The whole plant is of the most modern construction, and all the operations are conducted with scientific precision and clockwork regularity night and day.

How to Prescribe Whisky.

The Medical Committee of the Glasgow City Parish Council submitted the following report to the last meeting of the Council:—

It having been observed that alcoholic stimulants were being supplied to patients without being disguised in any form, it was agreed that a circular letter be sent to each of the medical officers, and also to the various dispensers, indicating the desire of the committee for these to be prescribed and dispensed in the same way as other medicines. It was left to the Convener to draw up the form of circular.

Dr. Chalmers asked the reason why it had been decided to take this course.

Mr. Russell, Convener of the committee, explained that occasionally an order was passed in, as was the case at last

meeting of the committee, stating in plain language that two gills of whisky were to be supplied to an individual. It was felt by the committee that this was scarcely the proper way to order this medicament. It was by one of the outdoor medical staff.

Dr. Chalmers asked if it was not whisky that was prescribed. Was too much given? or did the committee want to cover it in some way?

A Member: Is it labelled "Poison"?

Mr. Russell thought the intention of the committee was quite obvious. Dr. Chalmers thought it was not.

Mr. Russell said it was quite obvious that it was prescribed as a medicine, and the desire of the committee was that it should be prescribed as other medicines were prescribed. The minute was passed.

[We confess that the intention of the committee is not at all obvious to us. If, as we suppose, it is intended that the medical officers shall prescribe spt. frumenti when they mean whisky, what is to be done with the prescriptions when they are written? If they are taken to a publican he will hardly know what to do with them, and if the chemist dispenses them the Board of Inland Revenue may have something to say.—ED. C. & D.]

The Sanitary Association of Scotland and the Food and Drugs Act.

At the annual congress of the Sanitary Association of Scotland, held at Rothesay on September 11; Mr. John Lindsay, solicitor to the Police Department of Glasgow Corporation, read a paper on "The Legal Aspects of the Amendment of the Food and Drugs Acts," in which he put before the congress several suggested amendments of the Acts recommended by the Local Authority of Glasgow. The word "food" in section 2 of the Act of 1875, he suggested, should be broadened in its definition so as to include every article used for admixture with food or drink. Section 3, which prohibits the mixing and selling of injurious ingredients, should be amended by deleting the words "so as to render the article injurious to health," and substituting for them "which is of a poisonous nature, or which may render the article dangerous or injurious to the health of any person using the same, or which is known to be dangerous or injurious to health." It was also suggested that the onus of proving that the added substance is not injurious to health should rest upon the defendant. And it was further suggested that the Act should specify or provide for the indication of certain ingredients of an admittedly poisonous or dangerous or injurious nature, which should be absolutely forbidden. In that case, the analyst's certificate of the presence of such ingredients, or any of them, would be sufficient to establish the charge of adulteration. It was suggested that the best way to determine what ingredients should be included in such a specific enactment would be by nominating a commission of acknowledged experts to report. Regarding section 4 of the Act, which relates to the "prohibition of the mixing and selling of drugs with injurious ingredients," the Corporation of Glasgow, Mr. Lindsay said, submitted that an addition should be made thereto forbidding the sale of drugs which, not being made from the natural source, contain ingredients which are injurious to patients to whom the drugs might be administered, and it further urged that the British Pharmacopoeia should be legalised as the standard for all drugs. At present, the lecturer remarked, there is no standard for drugs, and therefore it is well-nigh impossible to say, far less prove, that drugs supplied are not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded. Dealing with section 6, Mr. Lindsay said it was suggested that the exemption sub-sections should be amended, s.s. 1 to read somewhat as follows:—"Where any matter or ingredient, which is not of a poisonous nature, and not known, or not likely, to be dangerous or injurious to health, has been added to the food or drug" &c.; s.s. 2, exempting proprietary or patent drugs or foods, to be deleted, because it seemed wrong to provide, as at present, that while licensed and qualified dispensers of medicines are subject to the Act, unqualified and irresponsible compounders are excepted. He thought it would be only right that proprietary medicines should have a label on each packet clearly and distinctly stating their composition. A provision should further be made prohibiting the addition of any inert, insoluble, or indigestible substance to any articles of food without labelling.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A GENERAL CONGRESS of pharmaciens will probably be held in Paris, next November, for the purpose of discussing the text of the new pharmacy law.

A FRIEND IN NEED.—The Vichy Water Company has undertaken to print the monthly *Bulletin of the General Association of French Pharmacists*, and to distribute it to the extent of about 10,000 copies. In return, the company will have control of the advertising space of the *Bulletin*. The directors of the Vichy Company appear to be very well disposed towards the trade, and it is hoped to get a special mention on the labels of all the Vichy salts and pastilles to the effect that they are only sold by pharmacists.

DENATURISED ALCOHOL.—M. P. A. Brangier, a distiller at Estives, who recently took the initiative in creating the "Association for the using of alcohol in industries," has just announced his intention of shortly calling together a meeting of French distillers, with the object of forming a commercial company to extend the use of denaturised alcohol. The new company would undertake the denaturation of the alcohol in certain centres so as to reduce the cost of carriage to a minimum. The company would also take an interest in the discoveries and processes calculated to extend the use of denaturised alcohol, which it would endeavour to make as general as possible.

A TARIFF OF PRICES.—Amongst the multifarious matters that have recently been occupying the attention of the General Association of French Pharmacists is a tariff for medicines supplied to patients of the outdoor relief offices or dispensaries. The tariff is sold at 2*fr.* (1*ls.* 8*d.*) per copy, with reduction for a quantity, and is only supplied to pharmacists or the Prefects of Departments. It appears that some of the provincial syndicates of pharmacy have already issued similar tariffs. One of these, published by the *Société du Lorient*, has a fairly large sale, so that the Association has compromised with that body to pay an indemnity, in order not to enter into competition.

INSURANCE AGAINST ACCIDENTS.—The Mutual Insurance Society against accidents in pharmacy has now been working satisfactorily since 1891. It was originated by the General Association of French Pharmacists, and remains its subsidiary society. It has now about three hundred members, which, however, is exceedingly small, considering how moderate the tariff is. The rate continues to be applied according to the number of assistants employed; thus a pharmacien without an assistant or with one only pays one premium, with two assistants double the amount, four being a maximum. The premiums were equal to 6*s.* 8*d.* in 1891, 6*s.* 4*d.* in 1892, 6*s.* 8*d.* in 1893, and then in 1894 it rose to 9*s.* 7*d.*, a dispensing-accident in one of the members' pharmacies having cost the society 6,000*f.* (240*l.*), and this premium has been maintained until this year, but is now reduced to the original small amount. There is a reserve fund of 25,000*f.* (1,000*l.*). The society claims to provide this insurance at a minimum of cost. Every attempt is made to avoid publicity, but in no case is the society liable for more than 10,000*f.* (400*l.*) for a single accident. The committee has, however, arranged with an accident-insurance company to undertake to insure members who require a higher guarantee. The company's charge is 20*f.* (16*s.*) per 10,000*f.*, and it also undertakes to insure against depreciation in the goodwill of a pharmacy resulting from an accident, the charge being 2*f.* per 1,000*f.*, but the amount cannot exceed 20,000*f.*

THE FRENCH P.A.T.A.—The failure of the French anti-cutting scheme, it is now ascertained, was due partially to the fact that there was a delay on the part of the Post Office authorities in delivering the forms of adhesion to pharmacists, these having been sent out as printed matter, during the time immediately preceding the last general election, when the capacity of the Post Office was severely tried. It is none the less certain, however, that the French Syndicate of Patent-medicine Makers showed no conciliatory disposition at the critical moment, when the names of only 850 pharmacists were

required to complete the 5,000 adherents they exacted to make the scheme operative. When asked for an additional delay of fifteen days, the Syndicate merely replied that they declined to occupy themselves any more with proposals which had turned their attention too long from important questions they had to consider. It looks as though they were rather glad than otherwise to escape from the arrangement. The net cost, or rather loss, to the General Association of French Pharmacists, who organised the scheme, is about 8,000f. (320*l.*), and is a heavy sacrifice. This, too, takes no account of the immense labour, almost amounting to devotion, which the General Secretary (M. Crinon), the President, and other gentlemen spent on the scheme. There are signs that the ultimate result of the failure of the arrangement will be severe hostility on the part of pharmaciens to patent medicines.

"FOR SWEET CHARITY'S SAKE." — The Correctional Tribunal of Lons le Saunier has given a judgment against the sister pharmaciene of the Cousance Hospital for illegal practice of pharmacy. The sister had been in the habit for several years past of not only distributing medicine to the poor for "sweet charity's sake," but also of selling medications at a profit to the public. As the result of an inquiry and inventory made by Dr. Ligerot by request of the Court, it was proved that a complete pharmacy existed in the convent of the hospital sisters of Cousance, and the profits resulting from the sale of medicine were regularly paid every quarter to the hospital treasurer. The sister had no pharmacist's diploma, but as she acted under the direction of the hospital committee, the chairman, M. Clerc, who is also Mayor of Cousance, was declared civilly responsible. On several occasions the latter had been warned by the authorities of the illegality of the practice, but had allowed it to continue. The plaintiffs were M. Lefebvre, the only pharmaciene at Cousance, and M. Vincent, of Arbois, who intervened as President of the Jura Pharmacists' Syndicate. The latter was non-suited by the Court on the ground that no other pharmaciene had suffered prejudice except M. Lefebvre; the latter claimed 6,000f. (240*l.*) damages on the ground that his business had been greatly prejudiced by the competition of the convent pharmacy. M. Clerc was condemned to pay him 500f. (20*l.*), and the fine against the sister was for a like sum, but she escaped under the First Offence Act.

Business Changes.

MR. EDGAR A. ASHCROFT has commenced practice at 13 Victoria Street, S.W., as a chemical engineer.

TAYLOR'S DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED) have opened a new branch at 39 Botchergate, Carlisle.

BOOTS (LIMITED) are about to open a new branch at the corner of St. Peter's Square and Oxford Street, Manchester.

MR. R. O. RIPPON, chemist and druggist, who has been in business in High Street, Great Berkhamsted, Herts, for over forty years, has been compelled to give up business on account of serious illness.

MR. W. E. MOODY has taken over the old-established business of chemist and mineral-water manufacturer carried on for many years by the late Mr. Jas. Bordass, at 3 Market Place, Great Driffield, East Yorks.

Personalities.

MR. KARL NEUFELD, the Omdurman Mahdist prisoner, was at one time an apotheker, but afterwards studied medicine at Leipzig, and went out to Egypt as a doctor.

MR. NICHOLLS, of Nicholls & Passeron, the well-known English pharmacists at Nice, was in London this week, but has now returned to France. He has been spending a summer holiday in his native county, Cornwall.

DR. MICHAEL FOSTER, F.R.S., whose witty speeches have been a popular feature at several Pharmaceutical Society dinners, has been elected President of the British Association for the meeting at Dover next year. The meeting in 1900 is to be held at Bradford.

Notes from New York.

(By the Man from London.)

DRUGGISTS' LEAGUE FOR SHORTER HOURS.

Undaunted by their defeat a few months ago, when their Bill was vetoed by the Mayor, the Druggists' League has drafted the following new Bill:—

The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1.—This Act shall apply to the City of New York.

Section 2.—No pharmacist, drug-clerk, or other employee engaged in the preparation or compounding of prescriptions or medicinal preparations in any pharmacy or drug-store shall be required or permitted by the proprietor to work more than ten hours on any weekday, other than Saturday, and not more than twelve hours on Saturdays, and not more than six hours on Sundays and legal holidays.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit the working of one hour overtime on any day except Sunday for the purpose of making a shorter workday, provided, however, that the aggregate number of hours per week does not exceed sixty-six.

Section 3.—No proprietor of a pharmacy or drug-store shall require or permit any one of his clerks to sleep in such pharmacy or drug-store, or in any store-room or laboratory connected therewith.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit the sleeping in any other room adjoining such pharmacy or drug-store, provided, however, that such room is properly ventilated and complies in all other respects with the sanitary regulations of the Board of Health of the City of New York.

Section 4.—It shall be the duty of the Board of Health to adopt rules and ordinances for the enforcement of this Act, and also to adopt such additional rules and ordinances to prevent accidents in the preparation and compounding of medical prescriptions and medicinal preparations as the public security may require.

Section 5.—This Act shall take effect immediately.

The opposition of pharmacists and drug-trade journals is directed rather against the men who are engineering the movement, and their questionable methods, than the Bill itself. Pharmacists resent the interference of men connected with labour unions who make a living as professional agitators and have nothing to do with the business, who have taken up the drug-clerk as a fresh addition to their stock-agitations from which they manage to make money. I attended a League meeting on Sunday evening, August 28. From the accounts given in the evening papers of the yellow type, I expected to see a large gathering of drug-clerks and the majority suffering from consumption, insanity, and cirrhosis of the liver, with a sprinkling of "drug-eaters" amongst them. After waiting nearly two hours the proceedings were opened with six members present. The Secretary, who did most of the talking, stated that the German Apothecaries' Society was opposed to the Bill, but what was to be expected from people who would not take the trouble to even learn the English language, and who held themselves aloof from anything having American origin? But he admitted that the German opposition was serious, as, out of the 1,900 pharmacists in Greater New York, one half are Germans. He cited nine cases of suicide by drug-clerks and six of insanity during the last three months. He also read a statement from a city pharmacist who said mistakes happened every day, the result of overworking drug-clerks. In reply to the antagonism of the New York druggists, the League has determined to show up the frauds practised, the mistakes made, the evasions of the poison and liquor laws, and all the faults of pharmacists. Whether these tactics will answer remains to be seen, but it is probable the League will only be in evidence so long as money is furnished by supporters sufficient to suit its promoters, and perhaps a politician who might get some advertising by championing the Bill.

MR. FREDERICK WILLIAM DUCKETT, manager of the Pall Mall pharmacy of Messrs. Hooper & Co., and also of the mineral-water business of Hooper, Struve & Co., has been chosen to preside at the next annual dinner of the South-East London Licensed Victuallers' and Beersellers' Trade Protection Society.

Colonial and Foreign News.

LICENCES have been issued authorising Evan Mayo Warren, chemist and druggist, Great Britain, 1895, and Henry Thomas Cunningham Graham, chemist and druggist, New South Wales, 1894, to practise in Cape Colony as chemists and druggists.

NIGHT-DUTY IN CONSTANTINOPLE.—We are officially notified that the attention of his Majesty (the Sultan of Turkey), who never ceases to study the welfare of his subjects, has just been directed to the fact that in the majority of the pharmacies of Stamboul there is no night-service. An Imperial Iradé has therefore been issued that in all the pharmacies of the capital a day and night service should alternate.

FIRE IN COOLGARDIE.—A disastrous fire occurred in Bayley Street, Coolgardie, on August 3, the scene of the outbreak being the south side of the main thoroughfare. A block of three shops was in flames in a short time, among them being the establishment of Mr. Leonard Webster, chemist. The building, being of wood and iron, burned at an alarming rate; but the arrival of the brigade and an abundant supply water soon overcame the danger.

TEA *ex* SIBERIA.—We mentioned recently that Russia had an eye on the tea-trade. Matters have now got to such a point that a continental official paper says that the completion of the Siberian Railway will take the exportation out of the hands of the English and give it to Russian merchants, who will place it on the market at 50 to 60 per cent. less cost. The tea will go to Irkutsh (South Siberia) by land carriage, thence by the Siberian Railway, and Eastern and Central European goods will be taken as return freight.

NORWEGIAN PHARMACY.—We have already reported upon the movement in Norway to get a pharmaceutical institute for the education of young pharmacists. The plan as now formulated consolidates the fund which, since 1887, has been formed by imposing a tax on all new licences as well as on renewals. The fund will, in 1901, amount to at least 168 000 crowns. The Government is selecting a site in Christiania for the institute, which is to be a perfectly independent teaching establishment with its own teaching staff.

REFILLING APOLLINARIS-BOTTLES.—Following on the recent successful prosecution for this fraud in the U.S., the Apollinaris Company have instituted similar proceedings in Canada. At Toronto W. J. Verner, was convicted before the Police Magistrate on a charge of unlawfully selling and having in his possession for sale goods to which a false trade description—namely, Apollinaris—was applied. The actual offence was that of refilling Apollinaris-bottles, bearing genuine labels, with intent to defraud. In Canada such offenders, likewise those who use counterfeit labels, are liable under the Criminal Code to imprisonment for two years with hard labour, and fine.

U.S. CUSTOMS DECISIONS.—The most recent reports of the General Appraisers include the protest of Messrs. Glading, McBean & Co., of San Francisco, against assessing as a manufactured article baryta carbonate; and that of Messrs. McKesson & Robbins, of New York, who claim that Browne's chlorodyne is a medicinal preparation in the preparation of which alcohol is used, and therefore dutiable at the rate of 50c. per lb. Both of these claims were sustained. Calcium carbide is held by the Board to be a chemical salt, and is therefore liable to a 25-per-cent. duty. Sacks of ground sulphur and barrels of rolled sulphur are held to be exempt from duty, as crude sulphur in bulk, instead of refined or sublimed sulphur.

MAYPOLE SOAP IN GERMANY.—The Tenton is catching on to the Maypole wonderfully well, as the following extract from the *Leipziger Tageblatt* shows:—

In the Grand Restaurant Continental Mr. Charles Marks, the representative of the Maypole Company, demonstrated to a large audience, mostly ladies who are chiefly interested in dyeing, that it is possible to dye in twenty-two fast colours, without soiling oneself in the least, with a specially-prepared soap, the invention of the Company. The demonstration was a complete success; it proved that it is easy to be one's own dyer. The article to be dyed is merely to be plunged into boiling water to which the

English dye-soap is added, and the mixture constantly stirred with a spoon. Three huge enamelled pans steamed over large gas-stoves, and whilst the officiating ladies busily stirred their wooden spoons the mass bubbled up—here red, there blue, yonder black. In a quarter of an hour stockings, yarn, fancy work, ribbons, shawls, children's dresses, aprons, and wraps were dyed in unfading colours. The work is done quickly, cheaply, and thoroughly, according to this receipt. From a practical point of view Mr. Marks's demonstration was a most favourable inauguration for the new English dye-soap.

PROFESSOR BEHRING'S REPLY.—The following is a literal translation of Professor Behring's reply to the criticism which has been passed upon him for permitting Messrs. Meister, Lucius & Brüning to obtain an American patent for diphtheria-antitoxin:—

It is true that I have obtained a patent in America for my diphtheria-serum, and it is true that the American firms who have made use of my method are very angry about this. If the Americans interested in the matter give expression to their anger in American fashion, they must settle that with themselves; if they, however, quite contrary to their custom, declare the claiming of legal protection for a practical and important discovery or invention immoral and scandalous, I cannot take their judgment quite seriously. For my part, I do not consider a legitimate pecuniary gain dishonouring; I might almost go so far as to look on the giving up of a legitimate and considerable monetary profit as unpardonable thoughtlessness. We must wait and see whether the American Courts will allow themselves to be intimidated by this newspaper persecution. If, as I confidently hope, this should not be the case, the American public will derive great benefit from the patent; they will obtain the antitoxin cheaper and better. Finally, as regards the denial of my right of discovery, this can only rest on ignorance or dishonesty. Let each one of the investigators who took part in the discovery of the antitoxin be questioned. Not one of them will contest the priority of my discovery.

THE VIENNA CONGRESS OF CHEMISTRY.—Last week (writes our Paris correspondent) I was fortunate enough to meet at the Hôtel Continental, Paris, Dr. Wiley, chief chemist of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, who was an official delegate of the U.S. Government at the recent Vienna Congress. He was on his way back to America, but said he had first to visit one of the centres of the beet-root-sugar industry in France and a model farm in England. The Congress he found very interesting, though it was not so numerously attended as the 1896 Paris Congress. No English was spoken. He himself read a paper in German. There were five Americans, including himself, but the majority of the chemists present were natives of Eastern Europe. All adherents who paid their entrance-fee had their names inscribed in a book, but no note was taken of the addresses of those who actually came, and it was no easy matter to find out who was really there; the more so as it was only at the opening and closing meetings that they all assembled in the same hall. In fact, though the hospitality was lavish the organisation was not always perfect. One of Dr. Wiley's friends, anxious to discover the whereabouts of a delegate, put the matter into the hands of the police, who hunted him out at his hotel. Dr. Wiley said he was not present when Dr. Lilienfeld demonstrated the production of artificial albumen, but he understood its actual and practical value in digestion and nutrition has yet to be proved—at any rate, on a large scale. Yeast-fermentation without living cells, practically demonstrated by Herr Edouard Buchner at one of the general meetings, was a special feature of the Congress. The process seems very simple and effective. Some fifteen minutes after the addition of the substances a rapid evolution of carbonic oxide commenced, and continued through the lecture. This is something quite new, and suggests a wide field of inquiry and experiment, since the quality, flavour, and value of fermented beverages depend so intimately on the value of the fermentations and the conditions under which they operate. The more rapid fermentation thus effected should be as valuable in the brewery as it is interesting in the laboratory. There was a section, Dr. Wiley said, devoted to food, medicinal, and pharmaceutical chemistry, in which a resolution was passed declaring it highly desirable, and a pressing necessity, that the strong pharmaceutical preparations of all manufactures should have the same contents of the active substances therein, and the tests for them should be uniform in all countries. This motion was the result of a paper by Hofrat Dieterich on "Galenic Preparations."

The Pelletier-Caventou Statue.

RARELY is a statue put up to a pharmacist. Even in France, the land of "statuomania" and official inaugurations, the pharmacist, as such, is not yet to be found in bronze or marble on a public place. Having learned that the Pelletier-Caventou memorial project had at length taken definite shape, and that M. Lormier, the sculptor, had been entrusted with its execution, I have taken an early opportunity of calling on the artist in question, and was fortunate to find he had not yet left Paris for his summer holiday. His studio is in the rue de Borghèse, Neuilly, no great distance from Christ



THE SCULPTOR.

Church, the British Orphanage, Sir Richard Wallace's Model Hospital, Galignani Almshouses, the "Île des Anglais," and other thoroughly English institutions of this very decided British suburb of Paris.

"Have you already any statues erected in Paris, M. Lormier?" I inquired. He shook his head. "This is my first work to be erected here, and, as such, of course specially interests me." "But I have seen your work at the Salon annually?" "Quite so, and very likely elsewhere, for I have already a statue at St. Omer, and a monument at Dunkirk. My memorial to the soldiers of 1871 is to be unveiled next month, and my statue to the 'Sauveteurs' at Calais very shortly," and he indicated a bold figure of a sou-westered tar. "Always up North—you must be a native of the Pas de Calais?" "I am a native of St. Omer, like Caventou himself," he replied, smiling at the coincidence. "You see that bronze bust of Caventou, by Dantan; well, one of the earliest recollections of my boyhood is seeing a plaster copy of it, which stood in a place of honour in the town hall of my native town. What struck my childish fancy was the serpent and bowl which you see on the side of the bust—I could not make out what it meant."

"And what is the Pelletier-Caventou monument to be like; two busts?" "Not a bit of it; two full-length bronze figures." "Life size?" "You are joking; statues are always far larger than life; these will be about ten feet high. Both savants must appear of course—yes, it should prove to be a striking monument." "And where is it to be placed?" "We are trying to get a splendid site. You know the big gate of the Luxembourg Gardens that looks on to the Avenue de l'Observatoire and the School of Pharmacy? We want to place it right in the middle of the semicircle, with the face to the School of Pharmacy, and the back to the Senate. There is no other such commanding position free anywhere near the School. Of course we must get permission from the Municipality, but with men like MM. Planchon, Chatin, Moissan, and Dr. Caventou on the committee I do not think the site is likely to be refused." "And the design—or shall I say grouping—itself? Have you made a model or sketch?" "I have made six models. I will show you the last three, including the one approved by the committee"; and he carefully unwound the damp cloths from three little groups about a foot high, roughly but boldly

modelled in clay, that stood on supports in the studio. "You see the idea," he remarked; "Caventou brings the flask filled with quinine to Pelletier, who examines it. In the first groups, you notice, the bottle is held low, but the committee, as practical men, pointed out that a scientific investigator always holds up a bottle to the light and looks through the liquid; and here, in the final 'maquette,' you see the idea carried out."

The group is spirited and natural. The older savant stands on the right and indicates with his finger the precious bottle which Caventou holds up to the light for his inspection. "You see the idea," remarked M. Lormier. "Caventou says, 'Voilà!' and Pelletier confirms with a 'Çà y est.'" "They are both in the costume of French pharmacy professors?" "Yes; I was glad to be able to avoid modern costume. Even kneec-breeches are not handsome in a statue. Look at the graceful folds one can get out of these flowing robes;" and the sculptor insisted on my taking back and side and diagonal views of the composition to note the effect and the grouping. One could conscientiously echo his sentiments. Pelletier's figure especially, the taller and more upright of the two, has much that is grand and noble in manner, while the more eager face and attitude of Caventou befits his younger age, and, consequently, more demonstrative satisfaction. "But, even if the Minister of War gives the committee old cannons (as a slight recognition of the services of quinine during the French campaign in Algeria) the 13,000f. (515L) collected so far will never pay for two large figures like that," I suggested. "More money will come in; we have only just begun, and have two years before 1900," replied M. Lormier stoutly. "There are at least 9,000 pharmacists in France alone; supposing they only gave 3f. apiece, that would practically make up the sum required." "But there are sure to be abstentions?" "Oh yes; but, on the other hand, what about foreign countries who owe more than we do to quinine?" "Like



THE STATUE.

the English in India and elsewhere, I presume?" M. Lormier smiled, but did not insist, and I quite understood that in this instance at least finance is not his province. But he might well think that those who have benefited by the great discovery should aid in doing honour to its inventors, who made a free gift of their invention to the civilised world. I thanked the sculptor cordially for his courtesy, and was informed that no outside person but the committee named to superintend the erection of the statue, and myself, had so far seen the models described above.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on September 7 at 3 P.M. Present: Mr. R. J. Downes (President), Mr. Beggs (Vice-President), Mr. Grindley (Treasurer), and Messrs. Bernard, Conyngham, Hayes, Kelly, Porter, Wells, and Dr. Walsh. A letter of apology was read from Professor Tichborne.

THE HEALTH CONGRESS PAPERS.

The PRESIDENT reported that he attended the Health Congress, which had a very successful series of meetings in Dublin. Amongst the papers read was one by Professor Tichborne on the Food and Drugs Act, which was a matter of considerable interest, especially on account of the reference in the paper to the omission by the Government to provide in the recent Bill for the establishment of Boards of Reference, and the suggestion that there should be Boards of Administration for local purposes in different sections of the United Kingdom. He (the President) supported the recommendations of the paper. The paper also criticised the Local Government Board for not requiring the preparations of the new Pharmacopœia to be supplied to Union workhouses, and it was of interest that we were authoritatively informed that that work had been compiled as a book of reference exclusively with regard to the requirements of medical men and analysts, the pharmaceutical chemist being completely ignored. The paper which he (the President) read was very favourably received, and would be printed in the proceedings of the Congress. Professor Moore, who was in the chair at the sectional meeting at which his paper was read, pronounced it the most important that had been read in the section, and at once moved the adoption of the recommendations which it contained; the motion was seconded by Professor Thrift, and the recommendations were afterwards adopted at the final general meeting of the Congress, and would go forward with the weight of its approval to the Lord Chancellor of England and the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and would, he hoped, have some influence upon future legislation.

Mr. GRINDLEY moved that the paper read by the President at the Health Congress be inserted on the minutes.

Mr. WELLS seconded the motion.

Mr. CONYNGHAM thought the motion should also apply to the paper read by Professor Tichborne.

Mr. HAYES: Is it not unusual to enter papers read at other places on the minutes of the Council?

Mr. WELLS: The President's paper was read at the request of the Council, and on behalf of the Society.

Mr. HAYES said he did not mean in the slightest degree to undervalue the paper.

Mr. BERNARD: Would it not meet the difficulty to attach a copy of the paper to the minutes?

Mr. WELLS said that was what would be done.

Mr. KELLY, as having been present, referred to the favourable manner in which the President's paper was received by Professor Moore.

The motion was then put and unanimously agreed to.

AT THE B.P.C.

The VICE-PRESIDENT reported on behalf of the delegates to the British Pharmaceutical Conference. The Council were very well represented at it by Messrs. Conyngham, Wells, Kelly, Dr. Walsh, O'Connor, and Johnston Montgomery. They were very well treated and had a most enjoyable time; and as far as he could see the relations between the members of the Conference were harmony itself. All seemed to take a deep interest in the papers that were read, and the lecture-halls were well attended every morning.

Mr. CONYNGHAM: I think the papers were above the average in point of merit.

Mr. WELLS said very good papers were contributed by Mr. Kelly and Mr. Doran, and the pharmacopœia papers were put off to the end, in order that the discussions upon them might be as full as possible.

The PRESIDENT said he had received the following letter, which he thought should be read to the Council:

14 Hardman Street, Liverpool,
September 1, 1898.

R. J. Downes, Esq.

Dear Sir,—I regret that we had not the pleasure of your company at Belfast during the Conference week, but no doubt you will have gathered that the meeting was a most successful and pleasant one. I have requested Messrs. Lafayette & Co. to send, addressed to you, a photograph of the Conference group, and trust it will be the pleasure of your Council to accept the same from me as a memento of the recent meeting in Ireland and of the courtesy shown to us on that occasion.

Believe me, dear Sir, faithfully yours,
CHARLES SYMES.

He (the President) wrote, in reply to Dr. Symes, saying that he should have great pleasure in placing his letter and the photograph before the Council, by whom he was certain they would be received and acknowledged with thanks.

On the motion of Mr. CONYNGHAM, seconded by the VICE-PRESIDENT, the best thanks of the Council were voted to Dr. Symes.

PORTRAITS OF PAST PRESIDENTS.

Mr. BERNARD said that some time since a wish was expressed by members of the Council to have photographs of former Presidents of the Society, and in consequence he wrote to Lady Martin, who was a daughter of the late Sir Dominic Corrigan, Bart., and she had been kind enough to present to the Council the fine engraving of the first President of the Society which the members had now before them. He had great pleasure in moving that the best thanks of the Council be tendered to Lady Martin for the engraving, and that it be suitably framed.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The PRESIDENT remarked that they had only a sketch likeness of Dr. Aquila Smith, another of their Presidents. He thought the collection of portraits should include their first Treasurer, Mr. Hodgson.

The VICE-PRESIDENT: Certainly; he took the deepest interest in the Society from the very first.

AN ENGLISH CERTIFICATE.

A letter from Mr. Richard Hobson, of London, asked the Council to accept certificates of a six months' course of lectures attended by him in the Westminster College of Chemistry and Pharmacy. The writer stated that he had only recently become aware that that College was not one of the institutions whose certificates were recognised by the Society; and he added that its certificates were accepted by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the College of Surgeons, and other examining bodies in England.

The PRESIDENT: We have never granted applications of this sort. We have only granted applications for recognition made on the part of the school itself.

Mr. WELLS: I think that college applied to us and we would not put it on the list.

The VICE-PRESIDENT: Have we not passed a resolution that we will not increase the number of schools whose certificates we recognise?

Mr. HAYES said that applications like the present on the part of individuals had been granted before. What did the by-law say?

Mr. WELLS: We may add any school we like.

Mr. HAYES: But can we not recognise an application unless the school has been added?

Mr. WELLS: No.

Mr. HAYES said the Westminster College was one of the best schools in England.

Mr. CONYNGHAM: We should not be bound by too strict a law in the matter. We are here for the advantage of the public and of students.

Mr. WELLS: The answer to that is that we have in past times put schools on our list that afterwards turned out not to be up to our standard, and we have no control over any of the schools that we recognise.

The PRESIDENT: I do not think we should accede to an application of this sort from an individual.

The application was refused.

APOTHECARIES' HALL CERTIFICATE INSUFFICIENT.

A letter from Dr. David Huey submitted a certificate from the Apothecaries' Hall, and asked that he should be registered as a pharmaceutical chemist.

The application was refused; the Council holding that the applicant's qualification was insufficient.

DONATIONS

were received from Mr. W. Martindale of a copy of the "Extra Pharmacopœia," and from the United States Department of Agriculture of a copy of a "Bulletin on the Principal Poisonous Plants of the United States."

On the motion of Mr. GRINDLEY, seconded by Mr. WELLS, thanks were voted to the donors.

EXAMINERS.

On the motion of the VICE-PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. WELLS, Dr. M. R. Whitla was re-elected examiner for the practical pharmacy division of the Licence examination.

An election was held for an examiner to conduct the pharmaceutical and general chemistry division of the Licence examination. There were ten candidates. On the motion of Dr. WALSH, seconded by Mr. CONYNGHAM, Mr. A. Forbes Watson, of Westmoreland Street, Dublin, was elected.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The PRESIDENT then brought forward a series of resolutions for the purpose of amending the regulations relating to the annual meeting, with the result, after a short discussion, that the following amendments were agreed to:—The concluding sentence of Regulation 4, relating to the voting-papers, now reads: "Each paper is to contain the names of the outgoing members of Council eligible for re-election, and of those nominated under Regulation 9." To Regulation 5 there has been added: "Should a voter initial more than seven names, his paper shall be cancelled. The scrutineers of the ballot shall be two members of the Council nominated at the September meeting, with the President or Vice-President and the proposer or seconder of each new candidate. They shall meet at 12 o'clock on the day of annual meeting to count the votes, and deliver to the Registrar a record of the voting. The names of the elected shall be declared by the President at the annual meeting."

THE HOURS FOR EXAMINATIONS.

The PRESIDENT moved a resolution standing in the name of Professor Tichborne, that in future all the examinations should commence at 10 o'clock A.M.

Mr. WELLS thought it would be a hardship to oblige candidates to come up from the country the night before the first day of examination.

Mr. HAYES was of a similar opinion.

The proposal was not pressed.

A motion of the PRESIDENT to alter the hour for commencing the Preliminary examination fell through, not being seconded.

NEW MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES.

On the motion of Mr. GRINDLEY, seconded by Mr. WELLS, the following were elected members of the Society:—Mr. John Armsted Ray, Rathgar, Dublin, and Mr. John Marlborough Whelan, Galway.

The following were nominated for membership:—Mr. James B. Bulger, Maryborough; Mr. John Copsthorne, Skibbereen; Mr. William J. Savage, Newry; Mr. J. C. Payne, Belfast; and Mr. H. R. Rutherford, Ballybay.

On the motion of Mr. GRINDLEY, seconded by Mr. WELLS, the following were elected associate druggists:—Mr. Thomas Donning, Killenaule, and Mr. James Moughty, Ballinacargy.

The Council then adjourned.

JAPANESE TOILET-SOAPS find a ready market in South Australia, where they enter into competition with British makes. They are of brilliant colours, packed in paper boxes of one dozen cakes, and sell at 6d. up to 1s. 6d. The soap manufactured locally is said to be of a coarse description, but the make is improving, and brown Windsor, which has a large sale, is being imitated.

Pharmaceutical Society of the South African Republic.

THIS essentially British Society continues to flourish, although the Transvaal Government has been making things rather troublesome for druggists during the past year. The third annual report, bringing the history down to June 5, shows the necessity for all druggists in the Transvaal to join hands with their Johannesburg *confrères*. The harsh Customs duties, especially on bottles, brought the committee together several times. They petitioned and interviewed Raad members on this unreasonable proposal, with the result that the tax was only imposed on the larger sizes. During this period it became apparent to the committee that to achieve any success in the future too much value cannot be placed on the sympathy and co-operation of chemists in Pretoria. The benefit of the existence of this Society, and the importance of all chemists becoming members, was amply justified, for chemists who had not thought fit to join looked to the Pharmaceutical Society to take action, and had such an association not been in existence there would have been no union, and probably the proposals would not have been defeated. The committee decided, with reference to the new British Pharmacopœia, that it should be adopted on January 1, 1899, and the Medical Society has been notified to that effect. Steps have been taken to get a chemist appointed on the Examination Board.

On the evening of August 17 the members signalled the completion of another year's work by dining together in the Masonic Hotel, Johannesburg. Mr. Robert Butters (President of the Society) was in the chair, and the company included Messrs. Iennie, Dinwoodie, Martlew, Birrell, Scruby, Lay, Rice, Trembath, Turner, von Klonowski (Vice-President), Gelity, Field, Lewis, A. S. Smith (Secretary), White, Lipchitz, Gersuchuny, T. W. Dukes, F.C.S., Heyman, Barlow, Davies, Weinckoff, Harris, Cohen, Austin Purnell, and A. H. Nowell.

The dinner was a fine one, the diners having choice of four-and-twenty dishes. After they struggled through it they honoured Mr. Kruger and toasted Queen Victoria. Then Mr. Trembath proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of the South African Republic." In the course of his speech Mr. Trembath said they lived in a State where there were practically no laws for the chemist. Under the old law of 1886 there was a clause in which chemists were somehow jumbled up with nurses, midwives, &c., but this law was now totally inadequate. They wanted a Pharmacy Act which would place chemists on the same footing as their brethren in other civilised countries, and which would allow chemists to have a voice in pharmaceutical affairs. Medical men [who have charge of such matters in the Transvaal at present] have little or no knowledge of pharmacy requirements. Mr. Trembath appealed to the trade of the Transvaal to join with the Society, and to work heartily with it in order that the needful reforms might be obtained.

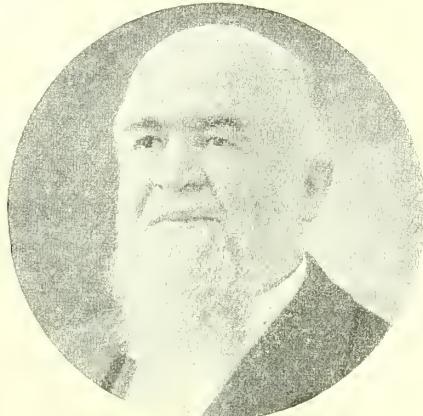
Mr. Turner, in reply, said the Society wanted Government recognition of their body. It was a noticeable fact that in almost every large town the mayor and councillors were seldom or never chemists. They were generally tradesmen. There was a noticeable want of unity amongst chemists, and this was due to the fact that their duties were heavy, and they had no time for social intercourse.

"The Press" was then given by Mr. T. W. Dukes, who confessed that the tincture-press would have been an easier subject for him; next "The Ladies" received attention from Mr. J. Heyman and Mr. Martlew; and, finally, "Foreign Representatives" were heartily toasted at the instance of Mr. Dukes, who said it gave him great pleasure to see three travellers present in the persons of Mr. Richards, of Whitall, Tatum & Co., New York; Mr. Smith, of Fassett & Johnson; and Mr. Barlow, of Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., in which firm he had himself seen service some eighteen years ago. Messrs. Richards, Smith, and Barlow replied, Mr. Richards's reference to the good fellowship and unity existing between the American and British people being loudly applauded. During the evening songs and recitations were given, the topical things being Mr. C. d'Solla's recitation, "The Chemists' Toast," and Mr. A. S. Smith's comic song, "Pink Pills." It was long after midnight before "Auld Lang Syne" was sung.

The American Pharmaceutical Association.

(From our Correspondent.)

THE forty-sixth annual gathering of this Association commenced on Monday afternoon, August 29, at Baltimore, under the presidency of Mr. H. M. Whitney, of Boston, Mass. Notwithstanding the business depression consequent on the



MR. H. M. WHITNEY.

late war and the terrific heat prevailing all over the country at the time, an unusually large number of members attended, and the 1898 meeting was one of the most interesting in recent years. Early in the meeting two

HONORARY MEMBERS

of the Association were elected—viz., Mr. William Martindale, London, and Dr. Fred. Hoffmann, Berlin.

There was a notable absence of members from the West, and this added colour to the rumour, subsequently confirmed, that

A RIVAL ASSOCIATION,

composed exclusively of retail druggists, was in process of formation under direction of the Chicago druggists. There is intense feeling in the West over the neglect of the commercial side of the drug-business by the Association. The Commercial Section has indeed for years past partaken of the nature of a circus, and no attempt has hitherto been made in the direction of aiding the retailer in the fierce competition which he has to face in the United States. The climax of this Section was reached at last year's meeting, when the Association frankly confessed its lack of interest in the commercial side, and its utter failure to assist the druggist in meeting such problems as the cut-rate question. As a last resort, Mr. Joseph Jacobs, of Atlanta, a particularly prosperous druggist, and an ardent cutter, was elected Chairman of the Commercial Section. This was the last straw, and the druggists of the West have decided to break away from the A.P.A. and start a National Retail Druggists' Association. That this action was premature was shown by the fact that at the Baltimore meeting the most practical, as well as the most interesting, of all the sections was the one on commercial interests.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

was inordinately long and somewhat tedious. He seemed to aim at dealing with everything germane to the practice of pharmacy. A curious recommendation in it, made in all seriousness, was that the National Formulary should be enlarged by including in it formulas for "popular household remedies," and that the enlarged volume be bound with the next edition of the U.S.P.!

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE A.P.A.

has declined slightly, the roll now numbering 1,415, of which 119 are new members, while 207 names have dropped

out. The youngest member of the Association, W. S. Sellers, met death in the destruction of the U.S. battleship *Maine* at Havana in February last. Financially the Association is fairly sound. Receipts were \$9,535 and disbursements \$6,337, leaving a balance in hand of \$3,198. The *Proceedings* were responsible for most of the expenditure, the total cost being \$2,325. The assets are not quite substantial, however, for there are annual dues owing to the Treasurer aggregating \$4,425.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

The Association decided to meet at Put-in Bay, Ohio, next year, and at New York in 1900, when the chief feature of the meeting will be a trip to England and France at its close. A recommendation to meet next year at the city of Mexico was defeated by vote.

DOWN WITH TRADE-MARKS.

The committees' reports were not generally of great interest, but the committee on national legislation submitted a cool recommendation of confiscation which deserves to be noted. It was that no person be granted exclusive right to any trade-mark after a certain length of time—say, the same as that granted to patentees. The committee argued that such words as vaseline become public property after some years, and that manufacturers should not be allowed to retain their rights in such property indefinitely. Only one member had the decency to dissent from this outrageous proposition. This was Mr. Thos. F. Moir, of New York (an Englishman, by the way). The report was eventually referred to the inevitable committee of three.

ARMY AND NAVY PHARMACISTS.

The committee on the status of pharmacists in the army and navy reported that they had secured a Bill granting to the Secretary of the Navy the power to promote twenty-five apothecaries in the navy to the rank of warrant-officers, with a salary of \$1,000 to \$1,800 per year. This report was greeted with hearty applause.

OFFICERS FOR 1899.—A LADY VICE-PRESIDENT.

The following were the officers elected for the ensuing year:—President, Chas. E. Dohme, of Baltimore; Secretary, Chas. Caspari, jun.; Treasurer, S. A. D. Sheppard, Boston. One election of unusual interest was that of Miss Josie A. Wanous, of



MR. CHARLES E. DOHME.

Minneapolis, as Third Vice-President. Miss Wanous is young and good-looking, and has a neat little store in a prominent location at Minneapolis. She is one of the stars of the Association.

COMMERCIAL SECTION.

The advent of the most prominent cutter in the South to the chair of this Section has resulted in the most important work done by the Association in recent years. The time given to this Section was, however, limited to one evening, a period which was utterly inadequate to the business to be transacted. Mr. Jacobs dispensed with any lengthy address to save time, and proceeded to present papers and reports. The most important of these was a volume of consular reports from over 150 U.S. Consuls in every part of the globe.



MISS J. A. WANOUS, VICE-PRESIDENT.

These reports were collected by the U.S. Department of State at the request of Mr. Jacobs, and included particulars of the practice of pharmacy in all countries, exports and imports of crude drugs and manufactured articles, and information as to the imitation of American goods in foreign countries, with description of the laws relating to practice of pharmacy, and infringement of trade-marks, &c. This volume was prepared at the expense of the Government, and should prove of value in England as well as in the United States.

Mr. Jacobs also contributed a paper descriptive of how to manufacture and dispose of home-made products in place of advertised goods or goods bought from supply-houses. It was an excellent demonstration of how to make the drug-business pay, but did not seem to attract the attention it deserved from the members present.

The major portion of this Section was devoted to consideration of resolutions from various State associations denouncing the patent-medicine manufacturers for their attitude on the stamp question. Resolutions were finally passed protesting against the unjust discrimination against the drug-trade by confining the war-revenue tax to medicines and perfumery, and it was resolved to memorialise Congress to apply the war-revenue tax to all articles of a proprietary nature, foods, beverages, cosmetics, &c. The resolutions also condemned those manufacturers who have taken advantage of the imposition of the tax to raise the price of their preparations greatly in advance of the amount of the tax imposed, and commended those who have refrained from adopting such a course. A letter was also read from the Chicago druggists inviting the Association to endorse their action in starting a new retail druggists' association, and to send delegates to their forthcoming meeting. A resolution to this effect provoked an acrimonious discussion, and the resolution was tabled, taken from the table, again discussed, and finally referred to a committee, who reported, after which the Association adopted the following resolution:—“While it is not in the power of the Association to officially aid the organisation of the proposed retail druggists' Association, whose call for a convention is based on the advance in prices of proprietary and patented preparations, this Association heartily desires the success of every organised effort of retail druggists which will protect their commercial and pecuniary interests.”

An adjournment was made after midnight until next morning, and the Council was requested to allot the Section more time next year.

THE NUMBER OF DRUG-STORES.

Mr. Joseph Feil, of Cleveland, O., presented an interesting compilation showing the number of stores in the States during the last three years. So far from there being an increase in number, as everyone supposed, there is a large decrease, this varying from 2 per cent. up to 25 per cent. The decrease in the number of retail drug-stores in the whole country for the last three years averages nearly 10 per cent. The only State showing an increase is Ohio, where there are about 2 per cent. more stores to-day than two years ago. Texas shows a decrease of 25 per cent., Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri 10 per cent. each, and Indiana and Pennsylvania coming last with a decrease of only 2 per cent. A similar condition prevails in the wholesale trade. Mr. Feil did not attempt any explanation of the cause.

THE SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

The work of this Section was somewhat disappointing in spite of the contribution of a number of interesting papers. Objection was made at the outset because the Chairman had not complied with the by-law to have ready printed copies of the various papers. The reports of the various committees were also evidently hurriedly put together, that on the revision of the U.S.P. being particularly bad. The only recommendation in this report of any value was that of the addition of a test for the sulphuric radicle to those given in the U.S.P. for sulphate of potash. The rest of the report suggested alterations off-hand, giving no facts, no results, and no particulars of work on the subject suggested. They also recommended the establishment of a laboratory in Washington for purposes of pharmaceutical research, but did not state where the money was to come from. The Section did not treat the work of this committee very kindly.

The Chairman's address on volatile oils was valuable but too far advanced for nine-tenths of the members to understand.

“GOGO-ROOT.”

Mr. E. H. Gane, Bell scholar and Pereira medallist, read a paper on Philippine drugs to the Scientific Section which created a great deal of interest, and Mr. Gane himself was a centre of attraction. Said the *Baltimore American* of him:—

Mr. Gane is one of the lights of the convention. He graduated at the School of Pharmacy of the British Pharmaceutical Association, and was for a time associated with Professor Hatfield, the celebrated chemist of that institution. He is now a resident of New York.

Mr. Gane showed that he knew how to cater for the American public by choosing for the subject of his paper a Philippine drug which had been sent to him as “Gogo-root.” He found this to be the bark of *Entada scandens*, Benth., and isolated saponin from it. He consulted several gentlemen who had been in the Philippines, and they all agreed that “gogo-root” is an excellent remedy for dandruff and skin-diseases, and that it is used in the Philippines and other Eastern islands, where it grows profusely, as a soap. The seed is also used by the natives as a food after being soaked in water and roasted. It is also an emetic, and it grows most abundantly in Mindana and the other Philippine islands. Mr. Gane's own opinion of the efficacy of “gogo-root” was that it is not a bit better for dandruff than ordinary soap.

A THEORETICAL COLLEGE-BOY.

Mr. E. L. Patch, of Boston, gave a fillip to the scheme of making pharmacists by educating them in college before they get to know the cast-iron conservatism and slipshod methods of the stores by relating the following parable in his “School of Practical Experience” paper:—

A prescription is written, calling for 75 gr. of calcium chloride in sixty salol-coated pills. Let me tell you its experience. Druggist No. 1 telephones to every wholesaler in town to ascertain if they have a stock pill of 1½ gr. of calcium chloride, salol coated, made by any manufacturer. Failing to find such, he returns the prescription to the patient with the information that the article called for cannot be obtained. Druggist No. 2, remembering the very deliquescent character of the calcium chloride, informs the customer that the pill will not keep if it is made. The patient, after visiting several stores and becoming about convinced that the specialist

he has paid a ten-dollar fee to is an ignoramus, at least so far as pharmacy is concerned, stumbles upon a theoretical college-boy. As soon as he reads the prescriptions, the three lectures, "Deliquescence, Pill-making, and Pill-coating," come to mind. To his 75 gr. of calcium chloride he adds an equal weight of powdered *althaea*, and two-thirds of its weight of powdered acacia. If it is a damp day he will add two or three drops of water; if a dry day, ten or more. As soon as made he will impale the pills upon the needles of the coating-machine, and subsequently dip them in melted salol contained in a short straight tube placed in a water-bath. After dipping sufficiently he will touch the needle-holes with a camel-hair brush dipped in the melted salol. He will not melt 50c. worth of salol in an open capsule, and, placing this capsule in direct contact with flame, decompose the salol. His lecture upon the fusing-point, and his classified table, will remind him that salol fuses at the low temperature of 110° F. At once he has re-established the faith of the patient in his physician, and convinced him that he should bring his prescriptions to the store where he is employed if he would save time and annoyance.

WHAT ARE POISONS?

Mr. F. H. Freerichs (Cincinnati) is of opinion that States, in drawing up laws regulating the sale of poisons, would be much assisted if the *Pharmacopoeia* gave a list of articles which should be treated as poisons. He submitted the subjoined list, in which "Class A" may be considered as equivalent to Part I. of the British Schedule, and "Class B" to Part II.:-

CLASS A.

Hydrocyanic acid, compounds of antimony, arsenic, mercury (except calomel), silver, cyanide and sulphocyanide, nitrobenzene, oils of tansy, croton, pennyroyal, and savin. Phosphides, phosphorus, wood alcohol, cocaine, chloral, apomorphia, aconite, belladonna, cotton-root bark, conium, cantharides, cannabis indica, colchicum, digitalis, duboisia, ergot, fish-bERRIES, gelsemium, black and white hellebore, hyoscyamus, ignatia, nux vomica, opium, poison oak, pilocarpus, physostigma, strophanthus, stramonium, veratrum viride, elaterium, and their active principles. All other drugs and chemicals the maximum dose of which is 1 decigramme or less, as given in standard works on pharmacy.

CLASS B

Acids, carabolic, hydrochloric, nitric, nitrohydrochloric, conc. phosphoric, oxalic, picric, sulphuric. Aqua ammonia all strengths. Compounds of barium, copper, cobalt, and soluble compounds of lead and zinc. Potassium and sodium hydrates. Bromine, iodine, bitter almonds, creosote, chloroform, ether, essential oils of mustard and bitter almond.

Wills of Deceased Chemists.

BOWER.—The will of Mr. William Bower, pharmaceutical chemist, 96 Tottenham Court Road, who died on October 23, 1897, has been proved by Mrs. Jane Bower, widow, and Miss Margaret, daughter of the testator, whose personality was sworn at 7,190*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

COSSENS.—Mr. William Cossens, 12 Church Street, Monmouth, chemist and druggist, having died on June 16, 1897, intestate, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Marianne Cossens, by whom the deceased's personality was sworn at 419*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

JAMES.—The late Mr. David Owen James, chemist and druggist, Newport, Pembrokeshire, having died intestate and a bachelor, letters of administration to his estate have been granted in London to Mr. John James, his father. The personality was sworn at 571*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*

JEFFERY.—The will of the late Mr. George Jeffery, chemist and druggist, Tring, Herts, has been proved by Philippa J. Jeffery, the widow, and Chas. Chappell, the executors. The testator's personality was sworn at 871*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

TROLLOPE.—The will of the late Mr. E. H. Trollope, chemist and druggist, Trowbridge, Wilts, has been proved in London by his son, Mr. Herbert E. Trollope, by whom the personality is sworn at 989*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* The testator left his property for the benefit of his children equally.

TURNER.—Letters of administration to the estate of Mr. John Turner, chemist and druggist, Hexham, who died on July 10, 1897, intestate and a bachelor, have been granted to his father, Mr. T. J. Turner, by whom the deceased's personality was sworn at 1,653*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*

Marriages.

JEEVES—ADAMS.—On September 6, at St. Paul's Church, South Hampstead, Arthur J. Jeeves, chemist, Brighton, to Nellie, youngest daughter of Mr. T. W. Adams, of Dublin.

MAIR—URQUHART.—At Tayport, Fifeshire, on September 14, by the Rev. H. R. Mackintosh, Ph.D., assisted by the Rev. James M. Brown, brother-in-law of the bride, and the Rev. R. S. Warren William Mair (representative for Scotland of Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher & Co.) to Isabella Jane, daughter of the late Mr. John Urquhart, Errol Park, Perthshire.

Deaths.

BURGESS.—At Salford, on September 9, Mr. J. S. Burgess, chemist and druggist. Aged 52.

FOX.—On September 6, at Farnworth, Mr. Herbert Fox, dispenser and formerly chemist's assistant.

KITCHING.—At Oakengates, Salop, on September 5, Mr. C. Kitching, chemist and druggist. Aged 54.

TRIMBLE.—At St. Davids, Pa., on August 24, Henry Trimble Ph.M., Professor of Practical Chemistry, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and Editor of the *American Journal of Pharmacy*. Aged 42. Professor Trimble, whose early death from phthisis is deplored by a large section of American pharmacists, had been connected with the Philadelphia College as a teacher since 1883, when he was appointed assistant to Professor Sadler, and later was given sole charge of the chemical laboratories as professor of practical chemistry. He graduated at the College in 1876, and from 1878 to 1883 was partner in a retail pharmacy, but his love for chemical research took him back to College work. Professor Trimble was a man of great personal charm, unassuming, an enthusiastic chemist. He had the rare gift of inspiring enthusiasm in others, and the Philadelphia students owed much to him. In 1885 he published a "Handbook of Analytical Chemistry," which has gone through several editions. He also wrote a "Text-book of Chemistry" along with Professor Sadler, and a great deal of original work in pharmacy stands against his name. To chemists outside pharmacy he is best known by his book on "Tannins," of which one volume was published in 1892 and a second in 1894. This work, though unpretentious in size, is a record of patient research. On the death of Professor J. M. Maisch in 1894 Professor Trimble was appointed to succeed him as Editor of the *American Journal of Pharmacy*, and he was more than successful in sustaining the reputation of that journal for originality, while he managed to make good yet not too profuse use of the work of senior students' theses. Professor Trimble is survived by a widow and family.

WESTWATER.—At Lochgelly, N.B., on August 25, Mr. G. Westwater, chemist and druggist. Aged 38.

WINTER.—At Manningtree, Essex, on August 23, Mr. W. J. B. Winter, chemist and druggist. Aged 68.

OVER 260 licences have been taken out in Cape Colony since January by representatives of British and foreign firms travelling South Africa.



New Companies & Company News.

PINEOTAS SOAP AND DISINFECTANTS COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business carried on by John Leith and George W. Mason at 1 Upper Brook Street, Manchester, as the "Pineotas Disinfectants Company." Registered without articles of association.

STRETTON HILLS MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business carried on by the "Stretton Hills Mineral-water Company" at several places in the county of Salop. The first directors are Arthur Hince (managing director), Adam Boulton, and David Hyslop.

CECIL WREN & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of vinegar brewers and distillers carried on as "Cecil Wren & Co." at Eaglescliffe, co. Durham, and to manufacture and deal in soap, varnish, polishing-paste, blacking, ink, British wines, chemicals, malt-extracts, sauces, pickles, &c. Registered office, Eaglescliffe Vinegar-brewery, Yarm-on-Tees.

ANGLO-CONTINENTAL CHEMICAL-WORKS (LIMITED).—Capital 4,000*l.*, in 3,850 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each and 3,000 founders' shares of 1*s.* each. Objects: To acquire certain rights relating to the manufacture and sale of chemical products in England and elsewhere, and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalters, oil and colour men, &c. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—Edwin R. Ellis, 62 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., clerk; Edwin G. Ellis, 12 Camden Avenue, Peckham Road, S.E., clerk; Pietro Sylva, gentleman, and Frederic Becker, merchant, of 9 St. George's Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.; Hermann Bohme, 187 City Road, E.C., clerk; Arthur Friend, 243 Camberwell New Road, S.E., clerk; William Young, 8 Agar Street, Strand, assistant. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors.

KURTZ (LIMITED).—Capital 100,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the benefit of an agreement made between Hardman & Holden (Limited) and Charles Kurtz & Sons, tar-distillers, of Liverpool, for the use of the works in Liverpool of the said Charles Kurtz & Sons, and to manufacture, carbonise, distil and manipulate coke, coal, oxides, ammoniacal liquor, acids, and other chemical substances. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—John J. Holden, 73 Albert Road, Southport, chemical manufacturer; George H. Holden, Heaton Mersey, Manchester, chemist; Archie N. Holden, 73 Albert Road, Southport, chemist; Robert H. Clayton, 37 George Street, Cheetham Hill, Manchester, chemist; Thomas Royle, 41 George Street, Cheetham Hill, chemist; John Craven, jun., 6 Helliwell Lane, Cheetham Hill, chemist; William Archdale, 43 Oldham Road, Miles Platting, Manchester, chemist. The first directors are John J. Holden, James Clegg, Edward A. Brotherton, and Frederick G. Holmes.

PARKE'S DRUG-STORES.—The annual meeting of this company will be held on September 29, when the directors will recommend the payment of a dividend of 4*½* per cent. (free of income-tax) on the ordinary shares for the half-year, making, with the interim dividend paid on March 30, 7*½* per cent. for the whole year, carrying to Depreciation Fund 505*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, and Reserve Fund 800*l.*

FARBENFABRIKEN VORM. FRIEDR. BAYER & CO., ELBERFELD.—The directors of this company propose to raise a loan of 8,000,000*m.* (400,000*l.*) by the issue of 4-per-cent. debentures to that extent, repayable within thirty-five years at 105 per cent. The object of the issue is to provide further capital for extending the business, and to pay off a loan of 2,714,500*m.*, at 4*½* per cent., outstanding since 1891. An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders is to be held to consider the proposal.

KEMP & CO. (LIMITED), BOMBAY.—The annual report of this company for the year ending June 30 has been issued, and shows a balance of 63,230*r.* 11*a.* 2*p.* After writing off 4,362*r.* for depreciation, it is proposed to dispose of the balance by paying a dividend of 12 per cent. on paid-

up capital (or 21*r.* per share), allowing 1,103*r.* 10*a.* 6*p.* for bad debts, giving 4,150*r.* as bonus to the staff, and adding 11,615*r.* 0*a.* 8*p.* to the reserve-fund, which at present amounts to 214,977*r.* 7*a.* 3*p.* The directors are completely satisfied with the details of the management and the efficiency of the whole European staff, both in Bombay and at the company's branches at Cumballa Hill and Byculla. Two of the directors (Messrs. Rustomjee N. B. Jeejeebhoy and Hurkisondas Narotumdas) and the auditor (Mr. J. P. Cornforth) retire from office, but all are eligible for election, at the meeting of the shareholders which was called for September 3.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE COMPANY (LIMITED).—The half-yearly general meeting was held on September 9. Mr. T. C. Wright presided. The Chairman stated that the profit for the first six months was 35,029*l.*, from which they had to deduct income-tax, 1,257*l.*, leaving a disposable sum of 33,771*l.*, or, with the sum brought forward, 39,785*l.* In consequence of the very severe competition in the candle-trade, there had been a falling-off in their profit during the half-year as compared with the first six months of 1897. The board, however, proposed to pay the same rate of dividend that day as at the same time last year—namely, 15*s.* per share—which would leave in hand, to be carried forward, the comfortable sum of 11,660*l.* The resolution to pay this dividend was unanimously agreed to.

Trade-Marks Applied for.

Anyone who objects to the registration of a trade-mark must address the Comptroller-General, Patent Office, Chancery Lane, W.C., within a month of the date of publication.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," September 14, 1898.)

Picture design (Chinese); for chemical substances used in manufactures, photography, or philosophical research. By Arnhold, Karberg & Co., 5 East India Avenue, E.C., and China, merchants. 209,367.

Design of a twisted rope; for chemical substances used in manufactures, &c. By the North Staffordshire Gelatine and Glue Company, Newcastle, Staffs, manufacturers. 216,200.

Floral design and Chinese characters; for chemical substances used in manufactures, &c. By Arnhold, Karberg & Co., 5 East India Avenue, E.C., merchants. 212,026.

Device (the essential particular) and wording; for chemical substances (acids) used in manufactures, &c. By T. Farmer & Sons (Limited), Billiter Buildings, Billiter Street, E.C., acid-manufacturers. 215,059.

Device of vine-leaf (the essential particular) and lettering; for a vermin-destroyer for insects and blight on plants and trees. By G. H. Richards, 124 Southwark Street, S.E., merchant. 214,247.

"CASTRIQUE"; for animal medicines. By J. F. Chambers, F.C.C. Dursley, Gloucestershire. 215,703.

"GOMENOL"; for sanitary preparations included in Class 2, and for pharmaceutical preparations included in Class 3. By Ch. Prevet et Cie, Paris, merchants. 215,924.

Series of four trade-marks, each being a device of vine-leaf (the essential particular) and letterings; for mildew-wash, liquid weed-destroyer, lawn sand (a combination of weed-killer and grass-fertiliser), and a special tomato-manure—all being chemical compositions included in Class 2. By G. H. Richards, 124 Southwark Street, S.E. 215,934.

"PYRAMIDON"; for chemical substances for use in medicine and pharmacy. By Die Farwerke vorm. Meister Lucius & Brüning, Hoechst a. Main, Germany, manufacturers. 215,952.

"TOXOT"; for a medicinal powder for neuralgia, liver and kidney complaints, headache, constipation, and indigestion. By D. Gilmore, 40 Townsend Street, Belfast, grocer. 215,976.

"VOMATO"; for mineral and aerated waters (natural and artificial). By G. W. J. Allen, 93 Lennox Street, Birmingham, mineral-water manufacturer. 216,131.

"CIRCUIT JUDGE" and "RAJAH"; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By J. Croxfield & Sons (Limited), Warrington, soap-manufacturers. 216,147 and 216,231.

"STEERING-WHEEL"; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By W. Gossage & Sons (Limited), Widnes, Lancs, soap-manufacturers. 216,256.

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Editorial Comments.

A Scientific Banquet.

THE Presidents of the various Sections among which the British Association distributes its work have at least a year to consider what they will say, and are pretty sure of a good audience. They are sure to be men who have attained eminence in their respective spheres of labour, and it may fairly be expected that each one will put forth his best. This anticipation is not always realised. Science-workers cannot “discover” something for a special occasion, and not all of them have the gift of being brilliant to order. The 1898 sectional addresses were hardly, we think, up to the highest standard, but all of them presented points of interest, and it may not be altogether unprofitable to run briefly through them with the object of selecting an idea, an exposition, or a novel piece of information here and there.

Professor Ayrton presided over Section A, Mathematics and Physics. His address dealt with many topics. First, he described the aims of the Physical Society's new journal, *Science Abstracts*, then he commented on the debt owing by industry to pure science, and, of course, the “small encouragement given by the nation” to scientific workers. But he went on to point out that those who pursue pure science are often equally forgetful of the debt they owe to technical workers. Of this he gave numerous illustrations. For instance:—

The whole science of floating bodies is said to have sprung from the solution by Archimedes of Hiero's doubt concerning the transmutation of metals in the manufacture of his crown. Thomson says regarding Newton, “A desire to know whether there was anything in judicial astrology first put him upon studying mathematics.” The gambling-table led to the Theory of Probability, and the first demonstration of the binomial theorem. Rankine's studies on water-lines, skin-friction, stream-lines, &c., were suggested by a question of Napier's regarding the horse power of a vessel. Helmholtz studied physiology because he desired to be a doctor, then physics because he found that he needed it for attacking physiological problems, and, lastly, mathematics as an aid to physical research. Kepler asked, “How many would be able to make astronomy their business if men did not cherish the hope of reading the future in the

skies?" and warned those who objected to the degradation of mingling astrology with astronomy to beware of "throwing away the child with the dirty water of its bath." Even now the astronomical research-work done at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, is a by-product, since the observatory is officially maintained merely for the purposes of navigation; so, too, the Royal Institution, the scientific home of Davy, Faraday, Tyndall, Rayleigh, and Dewar, owes its origin to Romford's proposal "for forming in London by private subscription an establishment for feeding the poor and giving them useful employment . . . connected with an institution for introducing and bringing forward into general use new inventions and improvements by which domestic comfort and economy may be promoted."

The Professor next went on to discuss the smell of metals, his wife being his expert as an odour-detector. He finds that all metals except gold and silver have a characteristic smell, but not when they are perfectly clean. Rubbing with the fingers will induce the smell, and it was suggested that it is not the metal but the hydrocarbons evolved which really yield the odour. Professor Ayrton also described some experiments he had made to ascertain the speed of diffusion of smells. He made long tubes and corked them at one end with corks soaked with odorous substances—camphor, menthol, oil of limes, &c. The perfume came through the tubes very slowly; indeed, it went through the corks and spread itself through the room in many cases faster. Professor Ayrton concluded that it is carried to the olfactory nerves by currents of air. As further evidence of this, he remarked, you may hold your nose close to strong ammonia, pepper, or camphor, without any smelling sensation if you hold your breath. Mere diffusion from the lower nasal cavity to the upper cannot apparently take place without an actual current of air. The Professor found further that blotting-paper would absorb more perfume than lard, but that in the case of musk wool was the best absorbent. Professor Ayrton no doubt made his subject interesting; but the experiments he recorded were rather crude and scarcely important enough to figure in a B.A. presidential address. The climax was reached when he concluded by assuring the Section that the physics of smell offered "mines of theoretical wealth," and a "luxuriant growth of technical application" to follow. "Already, for example," he seriously added, "Mrs. Ayrton unintentionally picks out inferior glass by the repugnance she shows at drinking water out of certain cheap tumblers." A good many ladies who have not enjoyed Mrs. Ayrton's advantages show a repugnance to anything cheap.

Professor Japp's address to the Chemical Section was a very learned one on "Stereo-chemistry and Vitalism." It all tended towards the discussion of the metaphysical question whether life is a distinct force or is the result of a fortuitous combination of atoms. He traced the theories of stereo-chemistry—that is, the conception of organic molecules as arrangements of atoms round a centre carbon atom—to Pasteur's early researches into the optical activity or inactivity of certain substances, especially tartaric and racemic acids. He apologised to "organic chemists" for explaining these theories, which, however, he said, were not well known to those outside their circle. Some quotations from eminent physicists were given to prove this. Unless we could give Professor Japp's exposition at great length we could not do justice to it, but the basis of his argument was Pasteur's assertion that the molecular asymmetry of natural organic products was the great characteristic which establishes perhaps the only well-marked line of demarcation that can at present be drawn between the chemistry of dead matter and the chemistry of living matter. But without the aid of living organisms, synthetic products have been separated by crystallisation

into optically active (dextro- and levo-rotatory) compounds, and the vast majority of chemists hold that this is evidence that the former theory has failed: that the intervention of life to produce such a result is not essential. Professor Japp, however, holds a contrary opinion. He quotes from Crum Brown that in this case the human hand which picks out the two kinds of crystals, and places each in a vessel by itself, may be regarded as the intervention of life, and he argues in favour of that view. At the end of an elaborate geometric argument, Professor Japp declared that he saw "no escape from the conclusion that at the moment when life first arose a directive force came into play—a force of precisely the same character as that which enables the intelligent operator by the exercise of his will, to select one crystallised enantiomorph and reject its asymmetric opposite."

Dr. F. O. Bower discoursed to the Botanical Section on morphology, and Mr. W. H. Hudlestane, as President of the Geological Section, dealt with the geology of those parts of England adjacent to the Bristol Channel.

Colonel Church confined his address to the Geographical Section to a description of Argentine geography, based on personal observations. He described how the great Plata Valley is being developed into prosperity, chiefly by the aid of British capital, 150,000,000£. of which has been absorbed there. He also sketched the ancient Pampean Sea, which at one time occupied a vast area in the middle of the country.

Sir John Wolfe Barry presided over the Mechanical Science Section, and in an able address recalled some of the great engineering works for which Bristol was distinguished, especially referring to those which had been carried out for developing its capacity as a port. And he pointed out that the prosperity of ports had in many cases depended more upon economic reasons and the neighbourhood of great centres of industry than upon physical characteristics. Indeed, it was "the business of engineers to modify and direct the great forces and characteristics of Nature for the use and convenience of mankind." To illustrate this he quoted what had been done in the face of enormous physical difficulties at Glasgow, Newcastle, Manchester, Buenos Ayres, Calcutta, Rouen, Dunkirk, Antwerp, Amsterdam, and especially at Bristol. This led him to the general consideration of dock-construction, and in the course of his subsequent remarks he quoted an interesting dispute which occurred when the British Association met at Bristol in 1836. Brunel was then engaged on the building of the *Great Western*, the great steamship which was to connect that port with America. It was of a then unprecedented size, 2,300 tons, and Dr. Lardner, an eminent authority, contended at the meeting that for a steamer of such size the resistance would be such that it would be impossible to carry engines and coals in sufficient quantity to cross the Atlantic. He based his views on the unproved, and now disproved, assumption that the resistance would be in direct proportion to the size of the vessel. The steamer was launched the next year, crossed to New York, and reached that port in fourteen days with a good supply of coal unused, and continued her journeys for twenty years.

Like his presidential colleague of the Mathematical Section, Professor W. F. R. Welldon, F.R.S., President of the Zoological Section, relied upon a series of experiments by his wife. Mrs. Welldon had been enjoying herself for the previous two months in throwing dice. She had made over 20,000 throws, and kept records of the results. If the lady ever was fascinated by the dice-box we should think she never will be again. The rattle of the little cubes must have become hateful to her. And the object of these 20,000 experiments was to prove that the proportion of sixes, fives, fours, and so on thrown will be practically similar if the

series taken is long enough. If the dice had been perfectly symmetrical, each throw of twelve dice ought to have given an average of six with points over three. But the face with six points cut out of it was a shade lighter than that with one, which was its opposite, and consequently a shade more likely to come to the top. So out of four series of 4,096 throws each Mrs. Welldon found the average number of dice with points over three to be 6 135, 6 139, 6 104, and 6 116. Other results were similarly uniform. But it may well be asked, what on earth had these dice-throwings to do with zoology? It seems that all this trouble was taken to prove that there is no such thing as pure chance, and to enable Professor Welldon to reply to an objection sometimes raised against the doctrine of natural selection, that "if the existing animals are the result of selection among the variable offspring of ancestral creatures, the variations on which the process of natural selection had to act must have been produced by something which was not chance." We confess we find it difficult to follow the argument, either of the objection or of the professorial refutation of it. The variations perpetuated (according to the doctrine of natural selection) were evidently in the first place abnormal, exceptional, rare. The best that the dice-throwing can prove is that in every 4,000 instances they might have occurred a uniformly average number of times. How does this help to prove the assumption that from these abnormalities new species sprang? Professor Welldon also dealt with other objections to the doctrine, such as that the process of evolution by natural selection would necessitate far longer periods than it is possible to give them by the earth's history. This objection was met by the record of experiments on crabs, on which Professor Welldon had been himself engaged, and which, he maintained, showed that the process was sometimes so rapid that it can be observed in the space of a very few years. But this, too, seems an insufficient reply. Suppose that certain abnormalities in crabs can be cultivated rapidly, the objection to the general theory is not affected.

Mr. James Bonar, M.A., entitled his address to the Economic Section "Old Lights and New in Economic Study," and did his best to show how fleeting are the axioms of economic science.

John Mill, who was almost one of them, spoke of Ricardo and the rest as "old"; and now John Mill is old to ourselves. Nay, we say to ourselves in reading Jevons or Bagehot that a good deal has happened since they wrote.

Mr. Bonar anticipates that in a hundred years to come the domestic servant will be no longer resident; production will be more democratic, being almost entirely of articles used by the masses, and hardly at all of luxuries for the rich; working men and employers will meet on more equal terms, the term "master" only remaining perhaps in the poetry of popular language; great companies may have passed into co-operative societies, and wealth will be more widely distributed. In other words, the socialists, whom he seems to hold small account of now, will be pretty well justified.

The Anthropologists have only of late years attained to the dignity of a separate section. Some of their methods of scientific study are, or seem to the uninitiated to be, a little far-fetched. For instance, they wish to prove that in a certain stage of race existence similar ideas occur to people in all ages and in all countries, and this is one of the evidences quoted by the President of the Section, Mr. E. W. Brabrook, C.B.:—

An extensive study of children's games, which had been entered into and pursued by Mrs. Gomme, has been rewarded by the discovery of many facts bearing upon these views. A great number of these games consist of dramatic representations

of marriage by capture and marriage by purchase—the idea of exogamy is distinctly embodied in them. You will see a body of children separate themselves into two hostile tribes, establish a boundary line between them, demand the one from the other a selected maiden, and then engage in conflict to determine whether the aggressors can carry her across the boundary or the defenders retain her within it.

The game is not familiar to us, but what it proves, if it proves anything, we should have thought would have been simply that man is a combative animal—that he will fight about anything. It is a large order to make such a game prove exogamy. A button or an apple would have answered the purpose quite as well as a maiden.

The Bishop of Bristol, who preached the British Association sermon at the Cathedral on Sunday, followed up the topic of Sir William Crookes's address, by taking for his text the words "Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness as to fill so great a multitude?" (St. Matthew xv. 33).

Indian Government Quinine.

THE Nilgiris cinchona-plantations do not nowadays come within the ken of the cinchona-buyer or the quinine-manufacturer, although twenty years ago the hills were still the nursery of cinchonology. Since then Java has ousted Ceylon from our markets, and both Indian and Ceylon planters find tea pay better than bark. Commercially, therefore, the Nilgiris are stranded, and there was an excellent opportunity for the plantations becoming extinct when Mr. Lawson retired two years ago, but the Madras Government did a thing unprecedented for a Government Department in appointing a platter and business man, Mr. W. M. Standen, as director. A year ago we told how Mr. Standen was making things wake up, and now that another of his graphic and business-like reports comes to us we find that he shows no sign of flagging, while the plantations and alkaloid-factory under his direction give evidence of becoming bigger in the near future. It must be understood that the plantations are a non-commercial venture. Cinchona is grown there, and some bark is bought for the manufacture of quinine and "febrifuge," which are distributed by Government agents or are used by Government Medical Departments. The distribution is by sale, and is well known to meet a lack of supply which private trading had been unable to fill. We propose to give as briefly as possible some facts in regard to the plantations and their work, in order to show that British interests in cinchona-cultivation are not dead. Indeed, the figures prove that the Government interest is sustained. In the permanent plantations on the Nilgiris (Dodabetta, Nedivattam, and Hooker) there are at present 1,546,427 cinchona-trees. Of these 605,194 are on the first, named plantation, 543,162 of them being *Cinchona officinalis*, which yields Crown bark; Nedivattam has 331,405 trees most of them being hybrids, and 133,816 *C. officinalis*; and Hooker, with 609,828 trees, has the division between these two in the opposite way, there being 315,558 *C. officinalis*. Last year a total of 128,349 lbs. of dry bark was harvested on the three plantations, and of this 92,172 lbs. was Crown bark, 14,192 lbs. red, and 21,685 lbs. hybrid. The production of bark and the manufacture of alkaloids are the main objects of the Nilgiris, but the traditions of McIvor are kept up by the propagation of methods of increasing the alkaloidal richness of bark, and during the year experiments have been continued with manures which are likely to increase the richness by 50 per cent. The details regarding the manufacturing-department are, naturally, the most interesting part of the report to outsiders, for they may be taken to give an inside view, otherwise unobtainable.

able, of the cost of producing quinine. Unfortunately, in this case the matter is complicated by "cinchona febrifuge." The total amount of Crown bark used during the year was 125,934 lbs. It yielded on the average 4·04 per cent. of quinine sulphate, besides 1·65 per cent. of febrifuge, while the 114,650 lbs. of red bark yielded 3·75 per cent. of febrifuge on an average. There were obtained 5,092 lbs. of quinine sulphate, and 6,389 lbs. of febrifuge. These were sold at 11s. per lb. and 10s. per lb. respectively, the febrifuge actually costing more in the bark than quinine. The cost of these together was at the rate of 7s. 3d. 3p. per lb. (say, 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per oz., allowing 1s. 4d. per rupee). Of this cost 2s. 0d. 7p. per lb. was chargeable for manufacturing, packing, and distribution. From this we are safe in deducing that it costs 2d. per oz. to take quinine sulphate from cinchona-bark and present it to the consumer. Although the Nilgiris report does not include any charge for rent and taxes, the increased cost of chemicals, packing, and despatching (largely in powder form) is a fair set-off to that item. It seems, therefore, that shilling quinine is a paying thing if one sells enough of it. We should note that Mr. Standen has been able to reduce the cost of production, &c., by nearly a third in a single year, and this does not appear to be the end of his efficient management, because last year he was much hampered by accidental delay in receiving chemicals and the enhanced value of fusel oil used in making quinine. For these reasons a large part of the time was employed in making febrifuge by the acid-process, and 6,389 lbs. of it was turned out (a record quantity), and only 5,092 lbs. of quinine sulphate (2,800 lbs. less than 1896-97); but the demand for febrifuge declined from 3,709 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. in 1896-97 to 1,955 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. last year, while that for quinine increased from 5,908 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. to 6,336 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. The febrifuge would really not be wanted if the Government did not make people swallow it. Even the poor folk who go to post-offices for the stuff take nine times more quinine than febrifuge, 283 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of the former, and 31 lbs. of the latter, having been sold to the public in 5-gr. powders during the year. The quinine powders are sold at 2p. in Madras and 3p. in Bengal; of these, 860,500 were sold last year by postmasters and 138,500 by Revenue officials. But the main outlet for the Government alkaloids is to the Medical Stores of Madras, Bombay, and the Punjab, dispensaries, gaols, &c., and by efficient management Mr. Standen has been able to reduce the price of quinine to these Departments during the year from 18s. to 11s. per lb., yet the net result of the year's operations is an excess of revenue over expenditure of 3,163r. 13s. 3p. The report is a valuable one, and we are pleased to observe that the secretarial appendix concludes with the expressive sentence: "The thanks of the Government are due to Mr. Standen for his efficient working of the plantations and factory during the year."

B.P. Problems.

ALTHOUGH criticism of the new Pharmacopœia has been almost confined to a few experts, retail chemists who make no pretensions to be specialists begin to find points in it which none have touched. One of the first to which our attention has been called is acetum scillæ. Two authorities have stated in print that this preparation is to be made up to a pint. That is perhaps a reasonable interpretation of the official intention, but it is to be observed that the B.P. does not say so. "The resulting vinegar of squill should measure 1 pint," says the B.P. We should like to know how anyone can take 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of dry squill, macerate it in a pint of dilute acetic acid, and get out of it, by straining and pressure, the whole pint of liquid. When the formula for acidum sulphuricum aromaticum was altered in 1885, the

sp. gr. was given as 0·911. Cripps, Fletcher, and Millard stated that 0·922 to 0·926 were the limits, and the Pharmacopœia has now adopted these figures. But the fact has been overlooked that the preparation is now made with alcohol sp. gr. 0·834 instead of 0·838, and 10 oz. of tincture of ginger replaces 2 oz. of strong tincture. How have Cripps's, Fletcher's, and Millard's figures happened to fit the new preparation so "pat"? "In making glycerin suppositories, the gelatin having been soaked, as officially directed, for two minutes and set aside to soften, the glycerin is then added and the application of heat speculatively delayed for some hours. Is this last arrangement favourable or prejudicial to the subsequent operations, and why?" asks a correspondent. The reply is—Prejudicial, as contact with the glycerin restores the gelatin to its original hardness. This illustrates the difficulty of drawing up a complete working formula. In the first place, Martindale omits the important "set aside," which permits of the thorough softening of the gelatin, and, on the other hand, the B.P. omits the requisite caution to dissolve "at once" on a water-bath after the addition of the glycerin. The formula in this case is that of the 1890 "Additions" with slight verbal alterations. But our correspondent does not explain why he delays heating after the gelatin is added.

PELLETIER-CAVENTOU STATUE.

The interesting interview with the sculptor of the Pelletier-Caventou statue which we print on page 479 will, we hope, suggest to some of our more wealthy pharmacists the idea of joining in the subscription. Our Paris correspondent informs us that the last list published of the subscriptions to this statue shows a total of nearly 14,000f. (say, 560*l.*). Some disappointment is manifest in French scientific circles that foreign pharmacists, especially perhaps among the Anglo-Saxon race, have shown so little enthusiasm in subscribing to the monument. The discovery by which Pelletier and Caventou are celebrated is certainly worthy of gratitude, and the unveiling of the statue will be made the principal function during the International Congress of Pharmacy to be held in Paris two years hence.

ENGLISH HOUSES AND COLONIAL TRADE.

We note with much satisfaction the interest which our wholesale houses have taken in the 500*l.* order from a South African druggist which was last week dangled before them by "N. O. D." That an anonymous letter should have called forth offers and protests from so many good firms is a sign that at any rate English wholesalers in the druggists' sundries line are not so lethargic as some of their critics are fond of representing them. We have reason to state that "N. O. D.'s" letter was written in good faith, but it is only fair to add that the firm who believe themselves to be pointed at have sent us an explanation of the delay alleged, which certainly puts an entirely different face on the matter, and, in fact, shifts the responsibility for it on to the shoulders of "N. O. D." himself.

QUININE PRODUCTION IN U.S.A.

We notice from the *New York Commercial* that the manager of Messrs. Powers & Wightman, of Philadelphia, says:—

The output of quinine by American manufacturers in 1897 was 3,336,168 oz. Statistics for the current year are not available, but I do not think the output will be much in excess of that of last year. The war has not increased the demand for quinine in bulk to any great extent. Prices are to-day 5c. per oz. below the normal. About 4,000,000 oz. are imported from Germany every year. It will be some time yet before Java quinine cuts much of a figure in this market. It is nonsense to talk of there being a shortage in the production. All information points directly the other way.

The actual imports of quinine into the United States last year were 2,714,147 oz. The 4,000,000 oz. has never been

approached. As the imports of bark are between two and three million pounds per year, probably two-thirds of that being used by manufacturers, the statement as to the output of quinine by American manufacturers cannot be far from the truth, and the amount agrees with a recent statement by us (*C. & D.*, April 2, page 545) that "the consumption of quinine in the United States is well over 5,000,000 oz. a year."

BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

When people insist that "something ought to be done" to rectify this, that, or the other grievance or anomaly, the simplest form of reply is to call upon them to express their desires in the language of an Act of Parliament. We have often noted the incoherent clamour of our medical defence friends, and have asked them to put into statutory language what they want. The *Medical Press*, which is sometimes more eager than discreet, has kindly obliged. This is the editor's idea of a reasonable Bill. It should provide that—

1. No person shall compound medicines unless he possesses a full pharmaceutical or apothecaries' qualification.
2. That no one shall attend or advise sick people or prescribe or administer medicine to them unless he is duly registered under the Medical Acts.

Without closely criticising the phraseology of the Bill, which is somewhat loose, it may be asked whether anyone can imagine that such a measure would be considered for five minutes by either House of Parliament. The *Medical Press* thinks it likely that if offered to them neither physicians nor pharmacists would cheerfully consent to have their respective liberties curtailed in this fashion. Perhaps not; but their opinions would only be one factor. The public convenience would have to be considered also, and human nature will have to change a great deal before men and women consent to abandon their inherent privilege to give advice to sick people whenever the opportunity occurs.

GUM ARABIC FROM THE SOUDAN.

A German firm has wisely said in a recent report:—"That large stores of gum have been stored in the Soudan which will come into the market in a few months is unfortunately not to be expected." One has only to read Colonel Slatin Pasha's "Fire and Sword in the Soudan," to appreciate the fact that the commerce of the Soudan will not be restored to its pre-Mahdi condition for some time to come. There is one passage in Slatin's work which deserves quotation. It is as follows:—

Gum arabie is collected in the forests of Southern Kordofan, and at one time constituted the principal wealth of this province. It was gathered principally by the Gimel and Gowama Arabs; but the former have been forced to emigrate, and the latter through constant tyranny and oppression, have been so reduced that scarcely a sixth remains of their original numbers. In the days of the Egyptian Government, from 800,000 to 1,000,000 kantars of gum arabie were gathered annually; but at present at most 30,000 kantars are produced, and were it not that one of the former chiefs of the Beit-el-Mal had represented to the Khalifa the increase which would accrue to his private treasury by allowing the collection of gum, it is probable the custom of gum-picking would have fallen into entire disuse.

Practically, a new industry will have been created in Kordofan when English influence penetrates that region. We have already reported that the Sirdar's expedition is accompanied by an officer and small staff whose business it is to look after the commerce of the country, and from what we have heard of the staff it is keeping a sharp eye on the gum-trade; but it manages well to keep its own counsel, which is not altogether a regrettable thing.

STOLEN PATENT MEDICINES ABOUT.—Messrs. Frizell & Co., of Cranbourne Street, Leicester Square, W.C., ask us to state that a number of medicine-stamps have been stolen from them, and they ask us to caution chemists against purchasing such stamps in an irregular way, and to give notice to the police if any should be offered.

Reviews and Literary Notes.

Materia Medica, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, and Therapeutics. By W. HALE WHITE, M.D. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4. Pp. xvi + 621. 3rd ed. (Churchill.) 7s. 6d.

THIS book presents in a condensed form the action and therapeutics of all drugs in common use among practitioners. First are given definitions, and then a few pages devoted to Pharmacopœia preparations and doses, prescription-writing, and pharmacological and therapeutical actions of drugs. The rest and greater part of the volume consists of a *résumé* of the action and therapeutics of the various drugs, a convenient grouping being taken. The information is presented in a concise manner, and makes the book a suitable one for chemists to keep on the prescription-desk as a reference-book for doctors. The present edition is made from the 1898 Pharmacopœia, and the book has also been brought up to date in the therapeutical portions.

MR. THOMAS BARCLAY, of Birmingham (of the firm of Southall Brothers & Barclay, Limited), has just brought out a third edition of his book on "The Future Water-supply of Birmingham" with new matter bringing up the information to date, and doubling the size of the work. A full history is given of the scheme of the aqueduct from Rhayader to Birmingham, which Mr. Barclay himself warmly advocated when he was a member of the Birmingham Town Council, and which is now being carried out. The course of the Bill authorising the scheme and the actual work done and planned are recorded in detail. Mr. Barclay gives in a final chapter some notes on the water-supply of Liverpool, Manchester, and London. He evidently considers that it is high time the metropolis followed the example of his own city. His book is copiously illustrated. (Birmingham: Cornish Brothers. 3s. 6d.)

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MOUNTAINEERING PHARMACISTS are still to the front in the September journals. We have not yet seen the name of that intrepid Alp-climber the late president of the Pharmaceutical Society, but the "Square" is fully represented by Professor Norman Collie, who has been discoursing of his expedition to the Canadian Rockies at the Camera Club, where also Mr. Clinton Dent gave details of his visit to the Caucasus, accompanied by Mr. Hermann Woolley, of Manchester, and showed their now famous photographs of these superb peaks. The "Journal of the Scottish Mountaineering Club" has also a beautifully illustrated article on rock-climbing, by Professor Collie, which he modestly entitles "A Reverie." Another article, "The Mountaineer as a Searcher after the Beautiful," by Dr. Inglis Clark (Duncan, Flockhart & Co.), with illustrations by Mr. Lamond Howie (Barron, Harveys & Co.), lets us into the secret of what enjoyable Easter holidays may be spent tramping over the snow or mist draped mountains of our own country.

MEDICINES valued at 3,427*l.* were imported into Sierra Leone in 1897, as compared with 5,093*l.* in 1896.

A MILL for the manufacture of cocoa-nut oil on a large scale is about to be erected at Singapore, the prime mover in the affair being a former member of the firm of Volkart Brothers, Colombo. Hitherto Singapore has drawn its supplies chiefly from Colombo.

OL. CAMPHORAT. MADE WITH COTTON-SEED OIL.—At the North London Police Court on Thursday afternoon, Mr. Joseph Emsley, chemist, High Street, Stoke Newington, was summoned before Mr. D'Eyncourt, under the Food and Drugs Act, for selling camphorated oil made with cotton-seed oil. He pleaded guilty, and explained that there were three kinds of camphorated oil made to suit the requirements of customers, and that it required a little discretion in dealing with customers—they did not always give people what they asked for, but what they wanted. The Magistrate and defendant then had a little talk about the matter, which was finished by the Magistrate saying: This may have been an error of judgment, but the Act of Parliament is intended to prevent such errors. I shall inflict a fine of 5*l.* and 12*s.* 6*d.* costs.

Legal Reports.

The Pharmacy Act (Ireland).

ACTIONS AT BELFAST.

SEVERAL cases under the Pharmacy Act (Ireland) were heard in the Belfast Summons Court on September 13 before Mr. F. G. Hodder, R.M., and other magistrates. Mr. Galway, solicitor, conducted all the prosecutions.

The first case called was a complaint against Messrs. John Clarke & Co. for keeping open shop for compounding medical prescriptions. Mr. Galway said this summons had been issued inadvertently, and he withdrew it. It had been laid down by the Queen's Bench, in the case of *Pharmaceutical Society v. Boyd*, that a company was not a person, and, therefore, they could not proceed against the company for keeping open shop.

The summons against Hugh McIntyre, an assistant in Messrs. Clarke's shop for actually compounding the prescription, he not being a registered pharmaceutical chemist, was then taken. Mr. F. W. Charley, solicitor, Lisburn, defended.

Mr. Galway quoted Section 30 of the Pharmacy Act, 1875, which says—

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell or keep open shop for retailing, dispensing, or compounding poisons or medical prescriptions, unless such person be registered as a pharmaceutical chemist under this Act, or assume or use the title of pharmaceutical chemist or pharmacist or dispensing chemist in any part of Ireland, unless such person shall be registered as a pharmaceutical chemist under this Act; and any person acting in contravention of this enactment, or compounding any medicine of the British Pharmacopoeia, except according to the formularies of the said Pharmacopoeia, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty of 5l.

Mr. Galway went on to state that Mr. Stewart McWilliams, an inspector of the Society, on July 11, called at Messrs. Clarke & Co.'s establishment with a medical prescription, and Mr. Hugh McIntyre filled it up, and the Bench would find that Mr. McIntyre was not a person qualified to do so within the meaning of the Act. Although they could not proceed against the company, in the case of the *Pharmaceutical Society v. Sheldon* it was laid down that an unregistered chemist's assistant who, in the absence of his master, sold any poison, was liable to the penalty, notwithstanding that he effected such a sale on behalf of his master and that his master was duly registered.

Mr. Hodder said that was a sale under a different Act of Parliament.

Mr. Galway: Yes, but it lays down the same principle of law. I hold that the law will apply with equal force to this case.

Mr. Hodder: Your argument goes to this extent, that everyone who sells must be registered.

Mr. Galway: Every person who fills a prescription must be registered.

Mr. Hodder: Do you say that every person who sells medicine over the counter must be registered?

Mr. Galway: I say that every person who sells and fills prescriptions must be.

Mr. Hodder: Do you say that every person behind the counter of a chemist must be registered?

Mr. Galway: I do not go so far as that, but I say that Mr. McIntyre, who filled the prescription on this date, was not registered.

Mr. Hodder: You do not contend that it would not be competent for an unregistered person behind a chemist's counter to sell patent medicines and the like?

Mr. Galway said he did not, but he said that on that particular date there were no persons in Messrs. Clarke's establishment qualified to compound medical prescriptions. The Pharmaceutical Society went to great expense to keep the public safe, but the protection would be taken away if a firm could keep a stalking horse for a short time and then withdraw him.

Mr. Stewart McWilliams was then examined. He said he was an inspector for the Pharmaceutical Society, and visited Messrs. Clarke's shop on July 11 and handed a prescription to Mr. McIntyre there, who filled it and gave back to him a bottle

(produced) which bore the label, "John Clarke & Co. The mixture. A tablespoonful to be taken three times a day after meals." The prescription was got from the Belfast Royal Hospital (where he was a male nurse), and he believed it was issued by Dr. Materer.

Cross-examined, the witness said he thought the initials on the prescription were "W. M. H. S." He did not know that there was no doctor in Ireland with those initials. He thought they might mean "W. Mateer, House Surgeon." He could not say if Dr. Mateer's Christian name was Charles. He did not know the licentiate in Messrs. Clarke's place, and could not say whether he was there that day. He did not know who filled the prescription. He only knew that Mr. McIntyre handed it to him, and that he paid him for it.

Mr. Charley: The summons against Mr. McIntyre is "for that you did compound," and this witness swears that Mr. McIntyre only handed the bottle across the counter to him. I do not ask the witness anything more.

Mr. Hodder (to Mr. Galway): Is that all the evidence you produce?

Mr. Galway: Yes; but if you give me an adjournment I will bring someone from Messrs. Clarke's establishment to prove that the qualified assistant was not there that day.

Mr. Charley: I object. You have brought me down here at a great deal of expense, and you have given us a great deal of trouble in making up a case.

Mr. Hodder: You have withdrawn the case against the company?

Mr. Galway: Yes.

Mr. Hodder said there was no evidence to sustain the case against Mr. McIntyre, and it would be dismissed without prejudice.

Mr. Charley said it was one of the most impudent actions ever brought into a court of justice. He would ask for costs in both cases.

Mr. Hodder: We will give you 12s. 6d. costs in the case against Mr. McIntyre.

There was a similar case to that of Messrs. Clarke brought against the Ulster Chemists (Limited), Peter's Hill, and this was also withdrawn, but a complaint similar to the last was brought against David Monson, of the Peter's Hill establishment, whose name did not appear on the register.

The evidence was much the same as in Mr. McIntyre's case, but the witness Mr. Stewart McWilliams said when he gave the prescription to Mr. Monson, in the Peter's Hill shop, he saw no one else there. He asked Mr. Monson could he compound the prescription, and he said he could. Witness said if he could not do so, he (McWilliams) would go somewhere else with it. Mr. Monson said he could do so, and that he would have it ready in about three-quarters of an hour.

Mr. Hodder said these prosecutions were very serious, and if fully proved he would impose a high penalty, but this appeared to be throwing cases at the Court, and not calling evidence.

Mr. Galway said if no one else was there, and Mr. Monson took the prescription to compound, the case was proved.

Mr. Hodder: In three-quarters of an hour the witness got the bottle back, but there was no evidence that it was compounded by Mr. Monson.

Mr. Charley said he appeared for both the Ulster Chemists (Limited) and Mr. Monson, and he asked the Court to dismiss both cases, with 20s. costs.

Mr. Galway: If so, I will take another way at an early date.

Mr. Charley: You will never be able to convict. You have tried it long enough.

Mr. Galway: We will summon one of themselves, and we will prove the case. We will bring them here again.

Mr. Charley: We are ready for you at any time.

The case against Mr. Monson was then dismissed without prejudice, with 12s. 6d. costs.

The next cases were against Mr. James Hogg, York Street, who was summoned for keeping open shop, and also for compounding a medical prescription on July 7, he not being duly qualified. Mr. Henry Hanna, B.L., defended.

It appeared from the evidence that the prescription in this case was compounded by Mr. Samuel Hogg, son of the defendant, and that Mr. S. Hogg is a pharmaceutical chemist. It also appeared that one side of the shop is devoted to groceries and the other side to drugs, and that Mr. S. Hogg

conducts the drug side, and was only in the employment of his father.

Mr. Hodder: He got his prescription filled by a pharmaceutical chemist, and I don't know what more he wanted.

Mr. Galway: The shop is being carried on by Mr. James Hogg, and this young man runs a shop himself within a shop, which he cannot do. In a similar case to this Mr. Lizars was fined 10*l.* in this court.

Mr. Hodder: The prosecution against Mr. James Hogg for compounding must go by the board. The next charge is that he kept open shop; but doesn't he keep a qualified man there?

Mr. Galway said, with all respect, he did not agree with Mr. Hodder that that was sufficient.

Mr. Hanna to Mr. S. Hogg: You didn't pay rent for your portion of the shop or anything of the sort?—No.

Mr. Galway: They have made the case, and I will leave it there.

Mr. Hodder: I will dismiss the case without prejudice.

Mr. Hanna: I will ask for costs in both cases. Mr. James Hogg is a most respectable trader, and it is a great shame that a man who is doing his best to ensure the public having a proper article should be brought up here. Will you give us 10*s.* 6*d.* on each of the two summonses?

Mr. Hodder: I will give you 10*s.* 6*d.* in one case.

Mr. Galway asked for a case to be stated.

Mr. Hodder: Upon what grounds?

Mr. Galway: That this is really a shop being kept within a shop, which is a contravention of the Act.

Mr. Hodder: I refuse to do so.

Mr. Galway: I will have to serve notice in the ordinary way.

Subsequently, Mr. Hodder said that in the two cases against James Hogg he would adjourn both until Thursday for further argument.

The case of the Pharmaceutical Society against James Hogg was mentioned in the Summons Court on Thursday. Mr. Lewis, solicitor, said Mr. Galway, the solicitor who appeared for the Pharmaceutical Society on Tuesday, had gone away on his holidays, and asked to have the case adjourned for three weeks. Mr. Hodder, Resident Magistrate, said he would hear the case now. The Court should not be treated in that way. Mr. Lewis said he could not proceed that day in Mr. Galway's absence. Mr. Hodder: I dismiss both cases, with 20*s.* costs.

The Indecent Advertisements Act.

AT Croydon County Bench, on September 15, Fanny Maria Jarrett (38), a berbalist, of Wandle Road, Croydon, was charged with exhibiting and delivering certain bills of an obscene and indecent advertisement to the inhabitants of Mill Lane, Carshalton, on September 14. Police-constable Tourner, 391 W, stated that the previous morning he found his wife at his own house in conversation with the defendant, who had given her two handbills. Seeing that they were of an obscene nature he went after the woman, and found her two houses lower down handing similar bills to a Mrs. Munday. Directly the defendant caught sight of the witness she tried to regain possession of the bills, but he was too quick for her and got them. He then told her that she would be charged, but she did not seem to hear what he said. He took her to the police-station, and in a bag which she was carrying he found a quantity of handbills (produced), also pills and medicine.

For the defence, Mr. G. W. Dennis argued that the case did not come within the Act of Parliament, and told the Bench that they could not convict unless the bills were distributed in a public highway, and here there was no such distribution.

The case was adjourned, the defendant being released on her own recognisances.

The Dentists Act.

AT Louth Police Court on September 8, Herbert Manning, of 86 Upgate, Louth, was proceeded against for "that he, not being a legally qualified medical practitioner, did use

the words 'Dental Institute,' implying that he was registered under the Dentists Act, 1878, and also that, not being so registered, he did use in addition—viz., 'fifteen years' experience in modern dentistry'—implying that he was a person specially qualified to practise dentistry." Mr. W. Haddon Owen appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty.

Mr. R. W. Turner, barrister-at-law, prosecuted on behalf of the British Dental Association, and appealed to the Bench to protect the public and the qualified members of the profession. From the evidence adduced it appeared that the words complained of in the first part of the charge were placed on a large board outside the defendant's residence, while the subsequent words appeared in defendant's advertisements. Defendant further allowed the words complained of to remain after being warned, but a witness called for the prosecution admitted that he believed the defendant to be competent.

For the defence it was urged that the words of the Act had to be "stretched" to bear the interpretation given to them by the prosecution, and that there was no intention to imply the qualification mentioned.

The Bench convicted, and imposed a fine of 7*l.* and costs, in default one month's imprisonment.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re BENJAMIN HOWARD BAKER (trading as Baker & Co.),
48 Marlborough Road, Tue Brook, Liverpool, late
41 Upper Frederick Street, Liverpool, Drysalter.

ACCOUNTS have been filed in this failure showing liabilities to unsecured creditors 516*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, and assets 346*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, less 31*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* for preferential claims. Debtor's alleged cause of failure is "bad debts and losses by travellers, and excessive competition." The debtor, who carried on business as a wholesale druggist and drysalter under the style of Baker & Co., states that he started on his own account in June, 1896, with 200*l.* of his own and 100*l.* borrowed from his wife. He had previously been in the employ of a firm of wholesale druggists in the City. The rent of the premises at Upper Frederick Street was 39*l.* a year, and at the date of the receiving order the landlord had sold everything under a distress for two quarters' rent. The balance of the proceeds of the auction, 23*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, has been paid over to the Official Receiver. The debtor has kept a cash-book and ledgers, but there is no capital account or profit-and-loss account, and his drawings are not posted in the ledger. He states that during the first twelve months he made a profit in the business, but for the past twelve months he estimates his loss at 136*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* On July 21 last year he executed a post-nuptial settlement of his household furniture. He states that he had a surplus of assets over his liabilities of nearly 300*l.* at the time. He states that from time to time his father-in-law gave him sums of money amounting to 195*l.*, generally by cheque. In January, 1898, his father-in-law died, and his widow took out letters of administration. She sued the debtor in the High Court for the amount alleged to be owing to her late husband's estate, but on the hearing the case was stopped, owing to the receiving order having been made. The debtor executed a deed of assignment on June 11, 1898, but it was not acted upon. He states that the house in which he resides belongs to his wife, and that he pays her 30*l.* a year as rent. He has drawn 2*l.* 12*s.* a week for household and personal expenses during the past twelve months. A sitting for the public examination of the debtor was held on September 8 at Liverpool, and after he had replied to questions an adjournment was ordered.

Re ARTHUR ERNEST ATTRIDE, 4 Thavies Inn, Holborn Circus, and 136 Stamford Street, S.E. (trading as Arthur E. Attride & Co.), Chemist, &c.

THIS case came before Mr. Registrar Hope at the London Bankruptcy Court on September 13. The debtor has filed accounts showing gross liabilities 921*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* (unsecured, 821*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*), and assets valued at 268*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* He is the holder of the trade-mark, "Ardito," used for cigars and cigarettes, and traded at Thavies Inn as a wine and spirit, cigar and cigarette merchant. He also carried on, under manage-

ment, a chemist's shop at 136 Stamford Street, but the landlord has taken possession at both places. The debtor attributes his insolvency to loss in trading, bad debts, law costs, betting losses, and loss on goods pawned at less than cost prices. Mr. E. Leadham Hough, Official Receiver, applied for an adjournment of the examination. He stated that there had been extensive pawning transactions, which necessitated the filing of cash and goods accounts. These had not yet been supplied. Mr. F. Cooper Wallis, on behalf of the debtor, raised no objection to the application, and his Honour ordered the hearing to stand over until November 2. The principal trade creditors are in the tobacco line.

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Birch, J., and Wademan, W., under the style of Birch & Wademan, Bare, Laneashire, aerated-water manufacturers.

Copeland, A. T., and Aggio, C., under the style of Copeland & Aggio, Shifnal, Salop, veterinary surgeons.

Hedley, W., and Galbraith, S., under the style of Hedley & Galbraith, Brandon, Durham, mineral-water manufacturers.

Tuff, J. H., and Argent, A. A., under the style of Argent & Tuff, Fenchurch Street, E.C., and Coborn Road, Bow, E., patent-medicine vendors.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

RECEIVING ORDEES.

Barry, William Joseph Murphy, Hove, doctor of medicine.

Burrell, George William, Birstall, aerated-water manufacturer.

ADJUDICATION.

Whitehead, Richard James, and Cox, John (trading as Whitehead & Cox), Birmingham camera-makers.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Child, Timothy, Green Lane, Dewsbury, aerated-water manufacturer. Trustee, Walter Dawson, Dewsbury, chartered accountant. Dated September 7; filed September 9. Liabilities unsecured, 430*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*; estimated net assets, 132*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* Assignment upon trust, &c., with power to trustee to allow debtor to continue, and wind up the business under inspection. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£ s. d.
Child, M. A., Dewsbury	.. .. .. .. 70 0 0
Kilner Brothers, Thornhill Lecs	.. .. .. .. 35 0 0
Ockerby, W., Dewsbury	.. .. .. .. 15 0 0
Stead, A., Dewsbury	.. .. .. .. 279 0 0
White, A., Dewsbury	.. .. .. .. 17 0 0

Winn, James Edwin, 39 Higher Ardwick, and 12 Albert Place, Longsight, Manchester, dealer in drugs. Trustee, Mark Blinkhorn, 133 Henrietta Street, Old Trafford, Manchester, agent. Dated September 2; filed September 9. Liabilities unsecured, 291*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* estimated net assets, 80*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£ s. d.
Davison, R., Manchester	.. .. .. .. 64 0 0
Hill, John, Manchester	.. .. .. .. 15 0 0
Jewsbury & Brown, Manchester	.. .. .. .. 12 0 0
Wilkinson, J. F., Manchester	.. .. .. .. 10 0 0
Winn, John, Manchester	.. .. .. .. 80 0 0
Woolley, Sons & Co., Manchester	.. .. .. .. 50 0 0

Trade Notes.

THE Lüneburger Wachsbleiche intimate that they have given the procuracy of the firm to Messrs. Julius Schlickum and Fr. Ewerrien jointly, to date from August 16.

AGENTS FOR EDME.—Edme (Limited), of Mistley, Essex, manufacturers of malt extract and combinations, have appointed Messrs. Dicker, Fort & Co., 95 Pancras Road, N.W., sole agents for the sale of their malt preparations in bottles, and advise that all communications respecting the Edme bottled products be sent to that firm, from whom samples and advertising matter may likewise be obtained on application.

DR. TIBBLES' VI-COCOA (LIMITED) are making a special offer, available up to the end of this month, of an extra 10-per-cent. allowance on 10*l.*, 25*l.*, or 50*l.* orders for a week's window displays during October and November. Besides, they have arranged with the proprietors of local papers to give reports of such displays. They also intimate that they will not supply direct any trader who cuts below fixed figures, and that no buyer can get better terms, however much he buys, than those they offer for 5*l.* orders.

TRADE EXHIBITIONS.—We have notifications of three coming events all at the Agricultural Hall, and all organised by Messrs. Dale, Reynolds & Co., of 46 Cannon Street, London. The Confectioners', Bakers' and Allied Trades' sixth annual exhibition will be open next week from Monday, September 19, to Saturday, September 24, inclusive. The third annual "Groceries" Exhibition will follow, from October 1 to October 8, and the Brewers' and Mineral-water Manufacturers' Exhibition will recur for the twentieth time from October 29 to November 4.

ABROLIS WATER is a German table-water which is to be introduced to English buyers by Abrolis (Limited), of 1 and 2 Rangoon Street, E.C. It is bottled at the Tonnisbrunnen at Brohl on the Rhine, and is a naturally aerated water, containing (according to Dr. Fresenius's analysis) carbonates of soda and magnesia and chloride of sodium in rather considerable proportion, with a little sulphate of soda and traces of lithia, iron, and other ingredients. It is quite pleasant, and a galaxy of eminent German doctors are quoted as endorsing its virtues.

THE *Newark Herald* gives a descriptive account of a visit to Messrs. J. H. Smith & Co.'s Flyodomo-works in that town. The reporter called at the works early this month, and found forty or fifty persons employed, and more girls wanted. They were so busy that they had to be working overtime. The floor of the office "was strewn with telegram-envelopes," and a heap of telegrams and orders lay on the desk. Upstairs were three ingenious machines for sticking the papers, and "150 gross can be passed through each per day." In another room they were being rolled and fastened. One girl could do seventeen gross per day. In another room a girl was found who could count and box 200 gross per day. The reporter asked Mr. Smith "What is the advantage of your Flyodomo over any other kind of fly-paper?" and he had to be satisfied with the explanation that "the great advantage is the special preparation used that is most effectual for the purpose; it is superior in every way to anything else."

THE CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR—Mr. James Rutten, chemist, Winsford, submitted, on September 10 through a solicitor, a statement of his conscientious objection to have his child vaccinated. The Bench, which was presided over by a doctor, said they had no discretion; but one Magistrate (Mr. Burder) observed, "I am sorry for you."

A DOCTOR ON STEEDMAN'S POWDERS—At St. George's Infirmary, Fulham Road, on Wednesday, Mr. C. Luxmoore Drew held an inquiry with reference to the death of the son of Charles Graddon, aged 6*½* months. Dr. Robert Donald, of 22 Oakley Street, in the course of his evidence said he was satisfied that the death arose naturally from convulsions consequent on diarrhoea, but he thought parents ought to be warned against using Steedman's powders, especially the poorer classes. It appeared to be the rule to give these powders for any ailment. If the child was constipated it was given one, if relaxed it had the same, and even if it had a nervous ailment it was given one. It did harm in two ways. The drug which was one of the constituents of the powder might do harm. The Coroner: Yes, the fact of getting medicine from the chemist is liable to cause delay and lose valuable time. The Doctor: Yes. The mother, in reply to the Coroner, said she had given the child a Steedman's powder. The Coroner (to Dr. Donald): You have no reason to suppose the death was due to the powder? Dr. Donald: No, sir; but I think in many cases the possibility of harm being done is very great. The Coroner: If a medical man was called in he would treat it for the disease from which it was suffering, and not have one medicine for all diseases. The Doctor: That is so. The Coroner said he quite agreed with the doctor with regard to the disadvantages of indiscriminate treatment without proper diagnosis by a doctor.

Correspondence,

In writing letters for publication correspondents should adopt a concise, but not abbreviated, style. They are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Letters, with Notice to or without a nom-de-plume, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer. Queries should be written on separate pieces of paper, and the regulations printed under the sections to which they apply should be strictly observed.

Wholesale Men Reply to "N. O. D."

SIR,—We are interested in the stirring admonition to "Wake up" (page 461 of to-morrow's issue). If you can see your way to address the enclosed catalogue to your correspondent, whose name we do not seek to inquire, we shall feel obliged. It seems a pity that American houses should be assumed more appreciative of a 500*l.* order than "the London house" who "will have to be left behind." We should be glad to get ready for shipment an ordinary assortment of 300*l.* of sundries and patents in a week or ten days from receipt of order, unless special urgency were imperative.

Yours faithfully,

F. NEWBERRY & SONS.

SIR,—Your correspondent "N. O. D." need have no difficulty in securing despatch. We guarantee to get his order for 200*l.* or 500*l.* worth of druggists' sundries, surgical instruments, and patent medicines ready within twenty-four hours of receiving it, provided it does not embrace bottle-caps, dispensing-bottles, tooth or other brushes stamped specially with his name. In such cases the making of dies for bottle-caps, plates for dispensing-bottles, stamps for brushes, &c., for his first order will necessarily entail delay, which need not exceed a fortnight. Given the dies, plates, and stamps already in existence, seven days would suffice. We may add we are sure his first experience of the alternative he meditates will be his last.

Yours faithfully,

LYNCH & CO. (LIMITED).

London, E.C., September 10.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent "N. O. D." (31/75) we beg to call your attention to the fact that wholesale druggists are not the right people to execute orders for sundries and patent medicines. We know a firm in London who could put a 1,000*l.* order (for cash) on board any ship in any of the London docks in under six working days, always supposing that manufacturers of patents specially put up for foreign sale would deliver on one day's demand. Failing this, the blame should attach to the slothful manufacturer, not to the smart wholesale (not druggist) house.

We are, yours truly,

JOHN SANGER & SONS.

London, W., September 10.

SIR,—If "N. O. D." (31/75 in your September 10 issue) applies to us for the information he desires, we shall be most happy to furnish same.

Yours truly,

LEEDS, September 10. GOODALL, BACKHOUSE & CO.

SIR,—Your correspondent "N. O. D." from South Africa, has had a hard experience; if he will entrust us with his 300*l.* order for "practically all stock lines" we will put them together, pack, and deliver in sixty hours. Our experience is that our Colonial friends desire to have proprietary goods from all quarters of the civilised globe, and in order to "save freight" we have to wait for these articles, and so waste time. It would be very interesting to examine "N. O. D.'s" invoices for the 500*l.* worth of goods he proposes to order in New York, and to calculate how much more they would cost than if he had ordered them in free-trade England. If "N. O. D." will pass the "firm of buyers," and give his orders direct to the undersigned, he will have no cause to complain.

Yours, &c.,

LONDON, E.C., September 13. MAY, ROBERTS & CO.

P.S.—By stock lines we do not mean "fads" or "oids," &c.

SIR,—We shall be glad if you will be so good as to forward the attached letter and price-list to the writer of the letter signed "N. O. D." which appeared in your issue of last week, debiting us the expense.

Faithfully yours,

LIVERPOOL, September 13.

AYRTON & SAUNDERS.

SIR,—We hope by your courtesy to be allowed to make a few remarks on a letter signed "N. O. D." in your last week's issue.

Our Colonial friends, we think, are sometimes a little over-exacting in their requirements. The majority of the larger export orders we receive contain lines for goods from outside houses. It is invariably these outside lines which delay an order. Even certain articles in our own trade—*e.g.*, bottles, toothbrushes, &c.—where the name has to be branded for the first time, take longer to get ready than goods from stock. When the South African rush was at its height last year we had always to send our shipments down at least ten days before the usual time to prevent any cases being shut out.

In answer to "N. O. D.'s" last question, our experience is that a general mixed order for drugs, sundries, and patents, takes about two to three weeks to get ready packed for shipping. Urgent orders to catch a special steamer we have got off before this time. Post and parcel-post orders we invariably send by the next mail.

Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., of Liverpool, confirm our remarks as regards their South American shipments.

Yours faithfully,

LONDON, E.C., SEPTEMBER 14. EVANS, LESCHER & WEBB.

Ext. Bellad. Liq.

SIR,—Dr. Jowett in his Conference paper (*C. & D.*, August 13) on "the mydriatic alkaloids," says that the alkaloid primarily contained in belladonna-root—*i.e.*, hyoscyamine—is converted by heat (or alkali) quantitatively into its isomer atropine, which is itself present in only a very small amount, if at all, in the plant. Mr. J. C. Umney does not find the quantity of total alkaloids in a weak percolate in any way affected by concentration (*C. & D.*, September 10).

The question suggests itself, on collating these two statements, whether, and to what extent, the hyoscyamine is converted into atropine by the concentration. If someone ascertained, polarimetrically or otherwise, that this is so, then it results that from 15 to 20 per cent. of the total alkaloid in the finished extract would be atropine instead of hyoscyamine which is extracted by the process that the B.P. expressly details, and not merely "suggests"—it does not say "may be prepared," &c., as it does of some other preparations.

One result of adding a percolate that has been "concentrated" to the normal one would be precipitation of resin—at least, unless a due proportion of alcohol be added to the aqueous concentrate before mixing; and that seems not to have been done by Mr. Bryant in the method which he tried and considered satisfactory.

Purchasers of ext. belladonnae liq. will be glad to know that a liquid extract made by heat cannot be substituted for one made by the official process, because of the very considerable darkening. If the final weak percolate is not utilised for extracting an additional quantity of root, a less objectionable use to make of it than turning into liquid extract would be to convert it into solid extract as suggested in the *C. & D.*, August 13, page 271.

I am, Sir, yours &c.,

LIVERPOOL, SEPTEMBER 12. J. P. CATFORD.

Fatty Matters in Liquid Extracts.

SIR,—In Mr. Umney's remarks under Liquid Extract of Nux Vomica, he observes that in its preparation no considerable proportion of oil is removed from the seeds by the solvent, but it occasionally happens that fixed oil is extracted. During the past few weeks my attention has been called on several occasions to the fact that the new tincture of nux vomica becomes cloudy, which cloudiness is removed by filtration, to appear again, however, in a few days. I am inclined to think that this is due to oil, and a word of warning should issue, because, unless the sediment is proved not to contain any alkaloid, its removal may weaken the preparation. It was shown many years ago, by Professor Attfield, that oleic acid dissolves alkaloids, and probably fatty acids may be present in some samples of nux-vomica seeds, which,

combining with the alkaloids, may be deposited from the tincture in the form of oleates, &c., of them. A sample of liquid extract of *nux vomica* in my possession has a sediment at the bottom, which is firmly adherent to the bottle, and appears to be of a greasy nature. Whether it contains alkaloids or not is a matter for future investigation.

Some weeks ago, when assaying ext. ipec. lig., I found that this contained 0.2 per cent. of fatty matters, but no precipitate at present has appeared in my sample of this preparation. It is, however, of a greater alcoholic strength, which may account for the non-precipitation of the fatty matters which it contains.

Birmingham, September 12.

F. H. ALCOCK.

An Ethical Question.

SIR.—A registered doctor, M.B., being a customer here, brings in a prescription three or four times a week for morphia injection, which I am certain he is using for himself. Am I right in supplying him? If I refuse I send away a good customer, and, being a medical man, he could obtain the injection almost anywhere. What should you do under such circumstances? Should be pleased if you would insert answer in the coming *C. & D.*

Yours faithfully,

SUBSCRIBER. (36/15.)

[The point raised is a nice one, but it is entirely one for "Subscriber's" own conscience. We presume he feels uncomfortable and hopes we shall say something which will put him at ease without offending "a good customer." The question has clearly two sides. Will some of our ethical friends assist in deciding it?]

Druggists' Defences.

SIR.—Does your correspondent Ernest J. Parry sell Gregory's powder by retail? If so, I should very much like to purchase some from him, and to send a portion of it to be analysed by the public analyst. If the analyst should certify that it contained from 28 to 32 per cent. of "official carbonate of magnesia," and if, in consequence, "E. J. P." should be publicly charged with having adulterated it to that extent, what defence would he offer? Would he (notwithstanding the care with which he selected his materials and made the preparation, and his certainty that no carbonate of magnesia was used), meekly plead guilty to the charge, and allow himself to be publicly execrated as a wretch who, for the sake of making a few extra pence on its sale, had basely adulterated a medicine which he sold to the public? I trow not. Yet this is the "bad advice" which he seems to tender to those chemists who are not less certain than he would be, that not a particle of carbonate of magnesia was consciously used in compounding their preparation. "E. J. P." may, if it so please him, hug himself on his superior virtue, and declare that no such certificate could be given by a public analyst respecting his preparation. Let him not be too confident. Men whose probity and truthfulness could not be surpassed even by "E. J. P." and who possessed the absolute knowledge that no such adulteration had taken place with regard to their compound, have nevertheless had to meet the abominable charge. It is possible that the poor bewildered victim, conscious of his innocence, and confident that the carbonate which the analyst declared to be present was never put there by him, may have erroneously suggested, as the only solution of the mystery that occurred to him, that the carbonic acid gas and water were absorbed from the air. It has yet to be proved that there is no truth in the suggestion, but it is probable that the chief source of error lies in the method of analysis. How would "E. J. P.'s" Gregory's powder come out of a test like the following, the particulars of which I can vouch for?—The respected principal of one of the oldest and most respected wholesale drug-houses in London, in the presence of competent witnesses, unscaled a fresh bottle of light calcined magnesia of a brand which bears the highest reputation in England, and there and then made some Gregory's powder with the magnesia and suitable quantities of the best powdered rhubarb and ginger. When prepared he sealed up a sample and transmitted it to a well-known analyst for analysis. In due time a certificate of the composition was given, in which this Gregory's powder was declared to consist of "rhubarb and ginger, 33.29; mag-

nesium oxide, 37.99; and magnesium carbonate, 28.72." I presume that "E. J. P." would not contend that his Gregory's powder would be made more carefully than this was, or that he would have escaped a prosecution for adulteration if the Public Analyst had certified that it contained 28.72 per cent. of "magnesium carbonate."

What would have been his defence? Those who have been hitherto prosecuted have acted under "bad advice"; will "E. J. P." now condescend to give a little good advice to those who, it is evident, may any day be prosecuted for making their Gregory's powder from the very best ingredients obtainable at any price, and in strict accordance with the B.P. As things stand, nothing can save them from conviction, for it is quite clear that the methods and conclusions of the analysts are at fault. Meanwhile critics like "E. J. P." may persist in denying to honest and honourable men the "right to be innocent," the game goes merrily on, innocent men are covered with disgrace, and reputations which good men and true have spent a lifetime in building up are seriously injured, if not totally destroyed. If anyone who possesses the necessary knowledge and skill would investigate this matter in a thorough and impartial manner, he would doubtless be able to expose the fallacies which now appear to mislead the analysts, and would earn the hearty gratitude of all who deal in this medicine. I suggest that "E. J. P." would be doing a real service if he undertook this work and showed chemists where their real defence lies, instead of treating with scorn and ridicule such defence as they are at present in a position to offer, but which, alas! avails them nothing with magistrates who have unbounded faith in the infallibility of the public analyst.

Yours truly,

X. (37/27.)

Trade-marks in Mexico, Columbia, Trinidad, and Labuan.

SIR.—Alterations in the law and practice of trade-mark registration have been made in several countries, particulars of which will interest many merchants.

Mexico.—The law in this country has been altered to place the foreign upon the same footing as the native proprietor of a trade-mark in respect to acquiring an exclusive right to same. Accordingly it is no longer necessary, as a condition precedent to the registration of a trade-mark, to have a business establishment or agency in Mexico, but foreigners may now register upon the same terms and conditions as natives.

Columbia.—A book for the official registry of trade-marks has been opened recently in the Ministry of Finance, and trade-marks may now be registered in this country.

This registration is not due to the passage of any special law upon the subject or executive decree, but is the result of an order of the Minister of Finance, who by this means affords trade-mark owners a way of securing some official proof of the ownership of their trade-marks, until Congress can pass a law upon the subject. This law is now being prepared, and it is expected will be passed at the coming Session.

Trinidad.—The law has been altered in this colony to conform as nearly as practicable to the existing law in England.

Labuan.—Trade-marks are protected by the provisions of the Ordinance of April 1, 1891, which is modelled on the lines of the British Merchandise-marks Act of August 23, 1887, and may be registered under the provisions of the Ordinance of November 1, 1893.

The term of protection is unlimited, but the registration is subject to annulment by the Governor for what he deems to be sufficient cause. Yours truly,

W. P. THOMPSON & Co.,
6 Bank Street, Manchester,
September 7.

Patent Agents.

The Spectacle-makers' Diploma.

SIR.—Recently you were kind enough to obtain and publish particulars regarding the diploma-scheme of "The Worshipful Company of Spectacle-makers." Your further assistance would no doubt be greatly appreciated by those in the provinces desirous of embracing the opportunity given of obtaining the certificate, but who are at a great disadvantage in not being able to obtain practical instruction.

Could you suggest any method of forming a class or obtaining a teacher? No doubt many would be willing to join in large centres like Sheffield. Perhaps someone in the district would take the matter up.

Yours sincerely,

Sheffield, September 7.

H. SCOTT.

[See Mr. Lionel Laurance's advertisement, and try to get up a class in Sheffield.—ED. C. & D.]

Where does Free Nitrogen come from?

SIR.—It may be presumptuous to call in question any statement of the President of the British Association, but is it not permissible to ask whether Sir Wm. Crookes is quite accurate when he refers to our atmosphere as practically inexhaustible as a source of nitrogen to provide nourishment for animal life on the earth? Under present conditions no doubt the term is fairly applicable—for all the free nitrogen which is abstracted from the atmosphere is inappreciable in the vast volume of it, and the oxygen after performing its beneficent functions in the world is restored again to it. So that the volume of the atmosphere and the relative proportions of its ingredients are maintained with a constancy which is simply wonderful. But if this atmosphere is to be tapped of its free nitrogen for the purpose of fixation, and in order to provide the nitrogenous element in food for all the teeming millions of forms of animal life all over the world, and this year after year, and without any of it being restored in its free form, is it quite certain that this constancy either of its volume or of its composition will be maintained? Or is this to be the next problem for the chemist to solve? After the fixation of nitrogen has been accomplished, is he to turn his attention to the unfixing of it, so as to restore it again in its free condition to the atmosphere? There will be ample scope for his energies in this direction, judging from the enormous amount of nitrogenous matter which we are assured is being at present lost by being swallowed up in the deep sea.

Yours faithfully,

NEON. (35/90.)

Hay-fever Experience.

SIR.—I should like to add also to your treatment of hay-fever (in that splendid treatise "Diseases and Remedies") what cured me and others in my district who were troubled with this distressing ailment—the following spray:

Acid, phenic, pur. ...	... ...	gr. iiij.
Cocaina hydrochlor. ...	... ...	gr. x.
Ext. hamamelidis ...	... ...	5ij.
Aq. pur. ad ...	... ...	5i.

Ten drops to be sniffed up the nostrils thrice daily from a pharyngeal-spray tube.

Also taking as a tonic $2\frac{1}{2}$ -minim doses of liq. Fowleri ter die.

The suggestion given by Mr. Willis, in last week's C. & D., concerning the use of smoked spectacles, I am sure is a very good one.

Withington.

J. A. S. (35/20)

Dispensing Notes.

This section is intended for the elucidation of dispensing difficulties. Subscribers and their employees may contribute to it, criticising any of the following notes or contributing notes on prescriptions which they have found to be of unusual interest.

The Incompatibility Question.

SIR.—I have witnessed the preparation of the above (No. 247/62) prepared by two of my expert assistants, and although I doubted the possibility of preparing it so as to make a satisfactory mixture, one succeeded in doing it by the following process:—The salts—borax and sodium bromide—were dissolved in 2 oz. of distilled water with the aid of heat. The mucilage, liquid extract of ergot, and chloroform-water were mixed and diluted to 6 oz. with distilled water, and this mixture was gradually added to the solution of the salts, shaking after each addition. The result was a mucilaginous but homogeneous mixture, quite suitable for the purpose of administration.

10 New Cavendish Street, W., W. MARTINDALE.
September 14.

SIR.—I have successfully made up the prescription "Incompatible" gave in your issue of August 6, and found no difficulty. I dissolved the sodae brom. in the aq. chloroform, and the borax in 4 oz. of slightly-warm water, mixed the two solutions, added the mucilage, and shook well; finally, added the ext. ergot. liq. It makes a mixture which shows no sign of gelatinising, and only after standing a week does it deposit a slight flocculence.

I am, yours, &c.,

Lees, September 14.

THOMAS WADE.

SIR.—I feel rather sorry for "Incompatible" that he and his competent assistant are still unable to dispense that prescription, even after minute directions were given by correspondents. I found no difficulty whatever in making a presentable mixture of it on August 6, and I have it still by me (it has changed a little in colour). I made another bottle last Friday after reading "Incompatible's" letter, and I am sending you a little of it. I used fresh mucilage each time. My procedure was as follows:—Knowing that mucilage and borax are incompatible, I mixed them as diluted as possible; nothing more is necessary. There is no necessity to quote "Squirc," "Muter," &c. Do we not dispense incompatibles every day? Experience, and not textbooks, makes a competent dispenser.

PHARMACIST. (31/63.)

Southsea, September 6.

SIR.—The mixture containing borax and mucilage of acacia is decidedly incompatible. Borax is one of the tests for distinguishing between tragacanth and acacia by remaining clear when mixed in solution. The Pharmacopoeia particularly states that borax and acacia form a translucent jelly, and it is this fact which makes the mixture an impossibility.

I have tried various ways of making this mixture, and have not been able to produce a clear one; but I find that if I use an old mucilage a perfectly clear mixture results. This mucilage is three months old, of proper strength, and made of good-quality gum, but, of course, is not used for dispensing purposes.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
London, September 12

GEORGE ROE.

I enclose jelly formed with half the quantity of borax and mucilage and water, also the mixture made with the old mucilage of acacia, which latter is kept in a well-corked jar and rarely opened.

[Mr. Roe's reply explains why the two sets of correspondents have obtained so widely different results. Presumably the free acid in the mucilage prevents gelatinisation.—ED. C. & D.]

"The Lotion."

SIR.—We have a prescription as follows:—

Sp. vin. rect. ...	... ...	... 5ij.
Aquam ...	... ...	... 5xij.
Ft. lotio.		

It has evidently been made a 14-oz. lotion when last dispensed; but I think as "aquam" is the accusative case by "ad" that it ought to be made a 12-oz. lotion. What is your opinion?

Yours,
SPIRIT LOTION. (36/56.)

[We can scarcely exclude the opinion that it is a "lotion" for internal use. Like our correspondent, we would dispense it as a 12-oz. lotion; but, following the first dispenser, a 14-oz. is imperative.]

Legal Queries.

34/69. J. H.—It does not seem to be illegal for the executors of a chemist's business to continue to carry it on under the name of the deceased chemist. At least, if it is illegal, you will err in good company. A great many famous pharmacies (including those of the President and of the ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society) are carried on under the names of deceased chemists.

35/55. *Perplexed*.—We do not see how you can get out of the contract you have made with the South of England Printing and Publishing Company if you made no stipulation as to the time when they were to furnish you with the circulars. It can hardly be said that September 12 is unreasonably late for you to be supplied with these. Send them the advertising copy, if any, and all instructions before October 15, and then inform them that you must have the almanacs by some date in December, and that if they do not reach you by that date you will decline to accept them.

31/71. *Quercus*.—The fact of brandy being named in the Pharmacopœia does not permit a chemist to sell it without a spirit-licence. The DIARY, 1898 (page 212), shows why chemists may sell spirituous medicines.

4/37. *No. 6*.—You have no legal claim to a holiday unless you expressly stipulated for it when you engaged yourself.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We reply to subscribers and their employés only upon subjects of interest to other readers generally. When more than one query is sent write each on a separate piece of paper. When a sample accompanies a query full particulars regarding the origin and use of the sample must be given, and it must be distinctly labelled. Queries are not replied to by post, and those sent anonymously are disregarded.

26/35. *Casado* (Barcelona).—The "wax" used for phonograph-cylinders is a preparation consisting chiefly of an alumina soap and Carnauba wax. We have not the details of the manufacture, but as the process is patented you would not be able to make the preparation.

26/24. *J. A. H*.—*Phosphorised Iron and Quinine*.—We have not examined the preparation which you refer to, but you will find the following satisfactory:—

Quininae sulph.	...	...	...	9ij.
Acid. phosph. dil.	...	...	...	q.s.
Syr. ferri phosph.	...	...	...	5ij.
Liq. ferri dialysat.	...	...	...	3ss.
Aq. chloroformi	...	...	...	3v.
Aq. destillat. ad	...	...	...	3xx.

Mix the quinine with 5 oz. of water and add sufficient phosphoric acid to dissolve, then the syrup and the dialysed iron diluted with the chloroform-water; make up to a pint, and set aside for a week; then bottle.

Dose: A dessertspoonful to a tablespoonful at meal-times.

27/43. *J. G.*.—Without particulars of the composition of the water we cannot say why it should become cloudy during hot weather. Most probably the water contains magnesium chloride, and interaction takes place between this and the cement, with the result you describe. A little lime might be added to the water with advantage.

28/58. *Cera Alba*.—(1) *Floral Sachet*:—

Lavender-flowers	...	...	...	8 oz.
Rose-petals	...	...	...	8 oz.
Gromnd orris	...	...	...	2 oz.
Ground benzoin	...	...	...	1 oz.
Otto of rose	...	...	...	10 minimis
Oil of sandalwood	...	...	...	10 minimis
Lavender-water	...	...	...	2 dr.

Mix the solids, dissolve the oils in the lavender-water and spray over the solids, turning the latter over constantly.

(2) The "Civil Service Manual" can be obtained through any bookseller, from Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co., or Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode.

30/575. *J. E. K.*.—The tincture is not made with fine biennial henbane; but we do not think it is tincture of belladonna. The flavour is too aromatic for that.

29/85. *Rheumatic Liniment*.—This consists chiefly of brandy and capsicum.

29/59. *J. R.*.—Read the advice to students of pharmacy given in our Educational Number, September 3.

29/28. *Restorer*.—*Jaborandi Hair-restorer*.—A pomade made by boiling jaborandi-leaves in lard or vaseline is not likely to be a good hair-stimulant, as little pilocarpine is extracted in this way. Jaborandi, to be of any use, must be applied to the scalp in a preparation sufficiently strong to stimulate the nerves which control the hair-bulbs, and that is practically impossible with preparations of the leaves themselves, as the amount of chlorophyll and extractive matter accompanying the active principle is objectionable. Whitla's *Pilocarpine-pomade* is one of the best preparations. The formula is:—

Pilocarpin, hydrochlor.	...	...	9ij.
Aq. destillat.	...	...	5ij.

Solve et adde—

Lanolin.	...	...	...	5x.
Paraffin. liquid.	...	...	...	5vj.
Ol. bergamot.	...	...	...	3ss.
Ol. verbena	...	...	...	3ss.

Fiat unguentum.

The perfume in this is too strong, and the preparation is frightfully expensive, but that is inevitable if a genuine article is wanted. The cheapest substitute of a fairly reliable and cheap nature is the following:—

Ext. pilocarpin. liq.	...	...	5j.
Tr. cantharidis	...	...	5ss.
Lin. saponis	...	...	3iij.

M.

To be well rubbed into the hair every day.

29/67. *A. T. & Co.*.—You should make oxymel scillæ for your own cough-mixture with the honey which has fermented.

27/41. *E. T.*.—*Mixture for Spitting of Blood*, which "has done much good":—

Acid. sulphuric. arom.	...	...	5ss.
Tr. cascariæ	...	...	5iss.
Aq. ad	...	...	3vij.

M.

Dose: A tablespoonful in water three times a day.

30/57. *Crinal*.—*Hair-wash*, "said to be particularly good for weakness of the hair, and to prevent it falling out":—

Tincture of capsicum	...	...	5ij.
Tincture of cantharides	...	...	5ij.
Essence of white rose	...	...	5ij.
Glycerin	...	...	5ss.
Rectified spirit	...	...	5j.
Water to	...	...	3vij.

Mix, add a little mag. carb. levis, shake, and after a few hours filter.

This will give a closely similar preparation, and a very good hair-wash.

35/60. *Carbo*.—The identification of plants or portions thereof is a matter which we do not find to be of general interest. The replies cannot possibly be intelligible to any but each of the persons who send the specimens. Compare this with the regulation at the head of this section.

Information Wanted.

The Editor will be obliged for replies to the following from any who can furnish the information.

236/34. Name and address of the maker of "The Hygienic" tooth-brush (perforated) are wanted by a foreign subscriber.

33/11. Address of Wickham & Co., engineers and makers of a bottling-machine.

31/67. The name of a doctor in Liverpool who removes superfluous hairs by electrolysis.

36/10. Who are the makers of "Yoko" for cleaning cloth?

36/45. Address of makers of the "Desideratum" strop.

36/41. Makers of machine for filling powders into bottles.

Trade Report.

Notice to Retail Buyers.

It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk, and, for crude drugs, without charges. For fuller particulars see the article "Lowest Trade Terms" in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, March 19, 1898, p. 473. C.i.f. quotations are for London unless when otherwise stated.

Buyers of essential oils are particularly requested to note that low quotations, especially for Sicilian essences, are rarely, if ever, accompanied by guarantee of genuineness.

BUSINESS has been a trifle quieter this week, but on the whole it has shown no retrogression upon the week before. At the cinchona-sales on Tuesday steady values were realised. There is a slightly improved tone in quinine, but very little doing. Cinchonidine, on the other hand, is quite brisk. The following are the principal changes recorded in our detailed report:—

Higher	Firmer	Lower
Cardamon-seed	Camphor	Asafetida
Chamomiles	Senega	Cream of tartar
Cinchonidine	Cumin (Morocco)	Copperas, green
Creosote	Pot. Pruss., yellow	Nux vomica
Indecuanhia		Oil, citronella
Myrrh		Oil, star anise
Saffron		Otto of rose
Senna		Pimento
Shellac		Quicksilver (seconds)
Zinc oxide		Rhubarb
		Vanilla

Drug-auctions were held in London to-day, and are reported on page 501.

The Position of Alcohol.

Mr. Hugo Lorenz, in the course of a circular regarding the present position of foreign S.V.R., writes as follows:—

The main reasons for the exceptionally high prices prevailing since April last, in spite of a good crop and increased production, were:—(1) Its increased consumption in Germany. (2) The stoppages or shortage of supplies from Russia, owing to the more complete introduction of the State monopoly into that country. (3) The increased demand from the new outlet for German spirits—viz., Japan. The stocks have thereby been greatly reduced, and those in Hamburg, which are the most important for the importation into Great Britain, are now estimated at only 5,000,000 as against 15,000,000 litres in 1897. The crop prospects of this year are so far most satisfactory, and, when the large demands for Japan, preceding the introduction of the new duty on January 1, 1898, which are now still keeping prices high, will have been satisfied, a market situation, which ought to enable consumers to secure their requirements for 1899 at a moderate figure, is confidently expected for November or December.

The Herb-crops.

The chief drug grown in Market Deeping (writes a correspondent) is peppermint, which is now being distilled, the process occupying about six weeks from the middle of August. "Black" peppermint is the variety grown here, the fields presenting a dark purple appearance when uncut. The crops are somewhat disappointing this year. Owing to the dry season and other causes, the herb is stunted and the leaves small, and the yield of oil smaller than the average. There are five large copper stills, each of which holds about 5 cwt. of herb; they are heated by direct heat and the contents removed *en bloc* by lifting out a false bottom. Dill is also being distilled just now, the yield being up to the average. There is also grown here a large quantity of henbane (the season, of course, being over), caraway, and belladonna, and smaller quantities of savin, lavender, rose-

mary, and wormwood; stramonium and squirting-cucumber are no longer cultivated, the demand for elaterium from the latter being practically *nil*. The plants, however, are to be met with wild, and some I touched fully earned their popular name of squirting-cucumber. The fields devoted to drugs are scattered about a very large farm, the soil of which is of the light rich kind characteristic of fen land.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is little change to be noted this week in the condition of the heavy-chemical market. Values, on the whole, are fairly firm, and well maintained, and the general tone is a moderately healthy one. Exports are rather better, especially to the United States.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Caustic soda in fair inquiry, 60-per-cent. 6*l.* 5*s.*; 70-per-cent., 7*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 7*l.* 5*s.*; 74-per-cent., 7*l.* 15*s.*, al. f.o.b. Liverpool; and 76-per-cent. to 77-per-cent. 8*l.* per ton, f.o.b. Tyne or Liverpool. Bleaching-powder is quietly steady, at 5*l.* to 5*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, free on rails makers' works, and 5*l.* 5*s.* to 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, f.o.b. Soda crystals in good demand, and firm; Liverpool, f.o.b., 2*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and Tyne 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* Salt-cake maintains a firm tone at 25*s.* to 26*s.*, f.o.r. in bulk. Chlorates steady, the potash salt at 3*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per lb., London and Liverpool, and chlorate of soda at 3*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to 3*l* $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* Silicates of soda in better request: 140° Tw. 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, 100° Tw. 3*l.*, and 75° Tw. 2*l.* 15*s.* net, f.o.b. in usual casks. Yellow prussiate of potash in brisk demand, and a slightly advancing tendency. Present figures for best Lancashire make is 6*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to 7*d.*

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—Quiet; but owing to makers being fairly well sold prices are kept moderately steady. To-day's figures are:—Beckton, 10*l.* 5*s.*; October-December delivery, 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; Beckton terms, prompt, 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; Leith 10*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, and Hull and London 10*l.*. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 567 tons.

SULPHOCYANIDES.—Quiet, and values keep very low: potassium, 6*l* $\frac{1}{2} *d.*; ammonium, 95-per-cent., 5*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; and barium, 95-per-cent., 4*d.*$

MAGNESIUM SALTS are moving well, and prices are firmly maintained, the sulphate at 2*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton; carbonate, 3*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to 4*l.* per cwt.; calcined magnesia, 1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.; and chloride, 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

GREEN COPPERAS.—In brisk request, at prices which are a shade lower. Best Lancashire makes, 3*l.* to 3*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *s.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, and Welsh 10*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton, on rails.

SULPHATE OF COPPER.—Quietly steady: Anchor, 17*l.*; and Liverpool, 16*l.* 15*s.* to 17*l.*

Hamburg Drug-market.

Hamburg, September 13.

The drug-business continues quiet, and prices are mostly without change since last week.

ALOES, CAPE, is firm, at 52*m.* per 100 kilos.

BALSAM, PERU, is quiet and lower, at 16*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *m.* per kilo.

CAMPHOR, REFINED, is a little quieter, at 22*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *m.* per 100 kilos.

CASCARA SAGRADA,—Firm and dearer, at 45*m.* per 100 kilos.

COCA-LEAVES,—Bolivian are quoted at 190*m.* per 100 kilos.

CUMIN-SEED,—Maltese is firm, at 45*m.* per 100 kilos. for new, which figure has been paid.

ERGOT OF RYE is without business; to-day's quotation is 130*m.* per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is quiet and lower, at 15*m.* per kilo.

NUX VOMICA,—Bombay is quoted at 15*m.* to 16*m.* per 100 kilos.

OPIUM is unchanged, but firm, at 24*m.* per kilo. for druggists'.

QUININE is quiet and neglected, without business, at 26*m.* per kilo, for good brands.

SPERMACETI is lower, at 255*m.* per 100 kilos.

WAX.—A very good business has been done in Japanese, at higher prices, at 62*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *m.* per 100 kilos. Carnauba has also been in good demand, at advancing prices—grey, 66*m.*, up to 120*m.* per 100 kilos. for yellow quality.

OILS.—Castor is quiet; first-pressing, in barrels, on the spot, at 55*m.*; October-December delivery, at 54*m.* per 100 kilos. Cod-liver showed very little business; nou-congealing oil is quoted at 80*m.* to 85*m.* per barrel.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—Russian anise is unchanged, at 13*m.*; star-anise, 15*m.* per kilo. Clove firm, at 6*m.* to 7*m.* per kilo. Peppermint, H.G.H., 5.30*m.* per lb.; Japanese firmer, at 7*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *m.* per kilo. Caraway-seed, 0.900 at 8*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *m.*, 0.910 at 9*l* $\frac{1}{2}$ *m.*, per kilo. Cajuput, 90*m.* per case of 25 bottles.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, September 14.

GUMS.—The inquiry for Arabic sorts rather lacks animation, but holders are firm, and the supply here is held for 67*s.* 6*d.* to 80*s.*

per cwt. Senegal offers on more favourable terms, and seems likely to attract more attention in view of the direct supplies continuing to arrive here. Other medium grades are steady and unchanged.

CASTOR OIL.—Notwithstanding arrivals of good seconds Calcutta this grade is very firmly held for $3\frac{1}{4}d.$, while good seconds Madras are quietly unchanged at $3d.$ to $3\frac{1}{4}d.$. First-pressure French is in particularly good demand at $3\frac{1}{4}d.$.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—At auction 81 bags were sold "on account of whom it may concern" at 7s. 6d. per cwt., but the value of good Egyptian remains 9s. to 9s. 6d. per cwt. Morocco is 12s. to 12s. 3d. per cwt.

POTASHES are in moderate demand at 22s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. and pearlashes 34s. to 35s.

BEESWAX.—Half a ton of Chilian mixed grey to yellow sold at 6s. 12s. 6d. to 7s. 2s. 6d., and 26 packages of Gambia have changed hands at a rather easier price.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—A small trade has been done in spot parcels, and 5 casks of Spanish are reported sold on private terms, but the current value for good quality and strength remains about 78s. 6d.

TURPENTINE remains firm at 22s. 6d., and there is a moderate business at this price.

OLIVE OIL is steady at the rates lately ruling, and but little is changing hands.

CANARY-SEED is quiet in tone, and bright Turkish is still firmly held at 29s. to 30s. per quarter.

HONEY.—Californian is very firmly held at the recent advance, and about 100 barrels Chilian have been sold—Pile I. at 24s. 6d., Pile X. at 28s. per cwt.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, September 15, 11 59 A.M.:—Few changes since my letter have to be noted. Carnauba wax is advancing, and grey is quoted 68m. per 100 kilos. to-day; borax is firmer, but unchanged in price, and refined camphor in bells is easier at 225m. per 100 kilos.

* * * * *

NEW YORK, September 15, 2.56 P.M.: This market is resuming a livelier aspect, and business has been brisk this week. Opium is in rather a weak state, at \$3.45 per lb. Senega is firming to a rise, and 26c. per lb. has been paid. Copiaba balsam is rather easier at 36c. per lb. Hydrastis-root is again fluctuating and unsteady, at 42c. to 50c. per lb. Spermaceti is dull of sale 25c. per lb. The surprise of the week is cascara sagrada. Supplies are coming forward in greater volume, with prospects of more, and, in consequence, the market closes at easier rates.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: September 15.

ACETANILIDE.—One maker quotes $11\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Ice crystals on the spot are quoted at $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. for 39° to 40° C.; and 34° to 35° C. $6\frac{3}{4}d.$. Detached crystals $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. more. Crude 60° 2s., and 75° 2s. 6d. per gallon. Liquid 95 per cent., 1s. 2d. per gallon.

ACID, CITRIC.—Unchanged, at 1s. $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 1s. 3d. per lb. for English crystals on the spot. Concentrated lemon-juice is quoted at 17s. per pipe, c. and f. terms.

ACID, TARTARIC.—Business is being done on the basis of 1s. $0\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. for foreign crystals.

ALCOHOL.—The quotations for contracts of 2,000 gals. rectified spirit are now 10d. per proof gal. in bond for druggists' quality and 11d. for perfumers' quality, September-November delivery, and $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gal. less for December-May delivery.

ARSENIC.—Unchanged, at 17s. per ton ex ship for best white English powder.

BLEACHING-POWDER.—The spot price is 6s. 10s. per ton. Liverpool 5s. 5s. f.o.b. or on rails. The Tyne quotation is 5s. 10s. f.o.b.

BORAX.—Crystals, 13s. 6d. per cwt.; powder, 14s. Boracic-acid crystals, 23s.; powder, 25s. per cwt. German reports say that the members of the Union are chary of making large contracts at present low prices.

COCA-LEAVES.—Fair to good Truxillo leaves were offered in auction and bought in at 7d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—Firm. The English sublimers will not raise their price (1s. $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. for bells) until the German makers

move a bit higher. Crude camphor maintains its firm position, and has advanced 2s. on the week, to-day's quotations being 91s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., for Japan September-December shipment, and 85s. per cwt. for Chinese. Agents for German refiners have been trying to pick up cheap parcels in London during the week, but they find that there is little available.

CHAMOMILES.—Much dearer. Our reports of the short crop in Belgium are fully confirmed. Specimens of the plants which we have seen show perfectly weazened flowers, which are scarcely worth picking, and during the past ten days the crop has been materially damaged by the drought. The price now asked varies from 73s. 6d. to 77s. 6d. per cwt., but only second-hand holders are selling below 75s. The agents of the growers are not keen sellers, because they reckon upon getting 5s. per cwt. for the best flowers before the end of the month. French druggists are buying chamomiles in Belgium—an uncommon thing with them.

CINCHONA.—At the London auctions on Tuesday nearly 2,000 packages were offered, and met with a rather slow demand, although the tone of the auctions may be put down as steady on the whole, the average unit value being unchanged at $\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $\frac{7}{8}d.$. Nine brokers offered supplies, the aggregate of which was as follows:—

	Packages.	Packages.
Calisaya cinchona	594 of which	146 were sold.
African cinchona	362	" 362 "
Ceylon cinchona	367	" 329 "
East Indian cinchona	339	" 202 "
Java cinchona	143	" 92 "
Soft Colombian cinchona	68	0 "
Yellow	63	20 "
Cuprea bark	20	0 "
Cartagena bark	14	14 "
	1,970	1,165

The following are the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
Agents for the American manufacturers...	122,695
Agents for the Brunswick factory...	79,892
Messrs. Howards & Sons ...	24,220
Agents for the Frankfort-o-M. and Stuttgart factories ...	8,685
Agents for the Imperial Quinine factory...	2,310
Agents for the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories ...	1,540
Druggists, &c. ...	25,390
Total quantity sold	264,732
Bought in or withdrawn	114,655
Total quantity offered	379,387

The following prices were obtained:—

SOUTH AMERICAN.—Bolivian cultivated Calisaya quill, 3d. to $3\frac{1}{2}d.$; medium to bold, $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 5d. Flat Cartagena, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $1\frac{3}{4}d.$. Cuprea was bought in at 3d. and soft Colombian at $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb.

AFRICAN.—Quill, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 4d.; thin and lean, $2\frac{1}{2}d.$; and bold chips, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{3}{4}d.$.

JAYA.—Ledgeriana stem chips, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{7}{8}d.$; branch, $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{1}{2}d.$; and root, $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 5d. per lb.

EAST INDIAN.—Small red chips, 1d. to $1\frac{1}{2}d.$; medium to fair, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $2\frac{1}{2}d.$; renewed, $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $2\frac{3}{4}d.$; crown chips, 2d. to $2\frac{1}{2}d.$; renewed ditto, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$; Ledgeriana chips, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$; and renewed, 3d. to $3\frac{1}{4}d.$

CEYLON.—Succirubra: Stem chips, $2\frac{1}{2}d.$; mixed, $1\frac{3}{4}d.$; medium to fair renewed chips and shavings, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ Officinalis: Fair to good natural stem chips and shavings, $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{1}{2}d.$. Ledgeriana stem chips, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$; and Hybrid ditto, $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $2\frac{3}{4}d.$

The Java shipments from January 1 to August 31 were—

1898	1897	1896	1895
Kilos.	Kilos.	Kilos.	Kilos.
3,568,000	2,465,000	3,014,500	2,508,350

The 8,137 packages to be offered at auction in Amsterdam on September 29 weigh 694,168 kilos., of which 33,991 kilos. are Government culture and 660,177 kilos. from private plantations.

CINCHONIDINE.—The demand for sulphate has been exceptionally heavy during the past few months, and there is so little of it available that German makers have raised the price this week to $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per oz. That, however, is for contracts, 10d. remaining the quotation for small wholesale lots.

COCOA-BUTTER—At the Amsterdam auctions on Tuesday, 75 tons Van Houten's sold at 68c. to 70½c. per ½ kilo., and 10 tons Helm brand at 68c. to 69c. 10 tons Suchard were bought in at 70c.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—A dull and easier market, at 75s. per cwt. for 95-per-cent. powder on the spot. The Bordeaux quotation is 69s. to 7s. f.o.b. net.

CREOSOTE.—Beechwood creosote has been advanced to 3s. per lb. for contract lots.

GALLS.—Small sales of Persian blue galls have been made at 53s. per cwt. for fine. Green and white are in small supply, and held for high prices.

GLYCERIN.—Quiet, and unchanged at previous quotations. There is not likely to be any further movement until the autumn.

MASTIC.—A small business is reported at 1s. 9d. per lb. for fair clean tear; best lots are held for 1s. 11d. The supply on the spot is practically exhausted.

MENTHOL.—At the close of last week business was done for forward delivery at 6s. 7½d. per lb. c.i.f., but on Tuesday sales were reported at 6s. 9d. The spot-price is 7s., at which good business has also been done.

OIL, ANISE.—Russian is quoted at 6s. 9d. to 6s. 6d. per lb. in contract lots, f.o.b. Amsterdam, which figures are easier, owing to the expectations of a good crop of seed. Oil of star anise maintains the easier tendency recorded last week.

OIL, CLOVES.—Foreign oil is offered at 2s. 9d. per lb. in contract lots for yellow, and 3s. for white, f.o.b. Amsterdam.

OIL, COD LIVER.—There has been more inquiry and business done in 1898 Norwegian at 80s. to 85s. per barrel c.i.f., and 75s per barrel for 1897 oil on the spot.

BERGEN, September 9.—The market continues dull, and the sales this week are of no importance. Best Lofoten non-congealing medicinal oil is 78s. per barrel f.o.b. terms. The exports from Bergen up to date have been 5,417 barrels, against 6,641 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—American oil is slow of sale at 5s. 6d. per lb. on the spot, and 3s. 9d. for "Wayne County." In the face of these low quotations buyers do not care to pay 3s. 4½d. to 3s. 6d. for Japanese dementholised, although holders are firm.

OIL, SANDALWOOD.—East Indian water-white is offered at 10s. 6d. per lb. in contract lots f.o.b. Amsterdam.

OPIUM.—Business on the London market remains dull, and quotations are unchanged. Fine Persian is still held for 11s. 6d. to 12s. per lb. on the spot, and at the former figure for forward delivery, holders being on the whole firmer. The *Tigre*, from Salonica, has brought 134 cases.

SMYRNA, September 2.—The wants of buyers seem to have been provided for by the last purchases, and they have practically deserted the market. The tone, however, remains steady, and the large holders are not disposed to make concessions, which fact has prevented the execution of an important "pocket" order to be filled at a slight reduction on present prices. The attitude of Constantinople dealers is exactly the same as ours. About 20 cases of old and new have been bought for export at last week's prices. The sales for the week in Smyrna amount to 12 cases new current talequale at the parity of 10s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f. European ports, 1 per cent. loss not included. Arrivals: 695 cases against 1,820. Certain large dealers interested in a rise have circulated a note, estimating the present crop at 2,800 cases only, of which no account should be taken, for the reasons given in our last review.

OTTO OF ROSE.—The predictions of two months ago have been quite fulfilled, and a great deal of business has been done in fine brands at prices ranging from 21s. per T. oz. up to 25s.

PHENAZONE.—Very quiet and unchanged. The original manufacturers intimate that they are willing to meet outside competition, and, in fact, would gladly do business at the figure mentioned by us last week. The sale of antipyrin does not appear to be greatly affected by its rivals, as the agents report a steady demand.

POTASH CYANIDE.—For next year's delivery 11d. per lb. is quoted for 98 per cent., 1s. 0½d. for September shipment, and 1s. 1d. on the spot. British manufacturers find it difficult to keep pace with their orders.

QUICKSILVER.—Second-hand holders quote 7l. 7s. 6d. and 7l. 8s., but Rothschild's price remains at 7l. 12s. 6d.

QUILLAIA.—One holder in London asks 19l. per ton, c.i.f. In Liverpool last week some 34 tons sold on the spot at 17l. 5s. to 19l. 10s. Supplies there are limited.

QUININE.—Values in first and second hands have a firmer tendency, but the business done is not voluminous. Java quinine continues to be quietly bought up for manufacturing-purposes. The s.s. *Laertes* has arrived at Amsterdam with 50 cases from the Bandoeng quinine factory.

SEEDS.—New crop Russian *Anise* is offering at 18s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms, but no business has been reported. For Russian *Coriander* 11s. per cwt. is asked for new crop to arrive. Morocco *Cumin* is held for higher prices, owing to scarcity; Malta slow of sale at recent rates. *Fenugreek* quiet, and price unchanged. *Caraways* dull. *Canary-seed* firm, at 27s. 6d. for Turkish and at 28s. to 33s. for good to fine Morocco qualities.

SHELLAC.—About the close of last week a good business was done, the transactions amounting to over 1,000 cases, including second orange TN at 64s. to 65s. per cwt. on the spot, closing at the latter figure. TN for August delivery has also been dealt in at 65s. On Monday a moderate business was done, including 250 cases at 63s. to 66s. for fair bright cakey to free, and AC garnet at 63s., and since then the market has remained firm.

SPICES.—This has been a quiet week, with an absence of speculation and scarcely any alteration in prices. At auction on Wednesday, there was a fair demand for Cochin *Ginger*, and sales were made of small rough and ends, wormy and weevily, at 16s. 6d. per cwt.; scrappy at 14s. 6d. per cwt.; dusty cuttings at 12s. 6d. per cwt.; limed small cut at 29s. to 29s. 6d. per cwt.; good bright ditto, 33s. to 34s. 6d. per cwt.; and bold cut at 80s. per cwt. Bengal was bought in at 20s. per cwt. Japan firm, with sales of good to fine at 18s. to 20s. per cwt. Zanzibar *Cloves* steady; 50 bales fair sold at 4½d. per lb., and 10 bales fine at 4½d. per lb. For future delivery 4½d. is the quotation. Penang sold cheaply, 47 cases realising 6d. per lb. for good red unpicked, and 6d. to 6½d. for dark picked. *Pimento* again lower, a few lots of ordinary selling at 4½d. per lb. *Nutmegs* and *Mace* unchanged. *Cassia lignea* firm; broken sold at 34s. per cwt.; the price of whole is 55s. for old import. A small lot of bold bright *Cinnamon-chips* sold at 5d. per lb. All the *Pepper* offered was bought in. Privately sales of Singapore black, at 4½d. per lb. To arrive, 5½d. is the quotation for October-December shipment. Singapore white sold at 8½d. for same position. Penang is quoted at 7½d. on the spot, and at 7½d. to arrive.

SQUILLS.—Fair dry slice sold in auction at 2½d. per lb.

SULPHUR.—The supply of foreign flowers on the spot is very small, and dealers ask 7l. per ton and 6l. 10s. for roll.

TAMARINDS.—A job lot of W.I. sold in auction at 10s. per lb.

ZINC OXIDE.—Dearer and rising. Ton-lots are sold at 28l. to 30l. per ton.

Drug-auctions in London.

THE sales to-day were featureless, and a poor variety of goods was on show, excepting rhubarb and wax. The following table shows what business was done publicly by the fifteen brokers who occupied the pulpit one after the other:—

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aconite	10	0	Cactus-flowers	4	0
Aloes.....	96	7	Calumba	101	0
Ambergris.....	3	2	Camphor	20	0
Aniseed	50	0	Cannabis indica	23	0
star.....	3	0	Cardamoms	165	64
Annatto-seed	11	0	Cassia fistula...	64	0
Atropine sulphate	20	0	Chiretta.....	5	0
Asafetida	99	99	Chutney.....	25	25
Balsam copaiba	3	2	Cinchona	229	54
Peru.....	2	0	Civet (horns)	12	0
Tolu	4	0	Coca-leaves	21	0
Benzoin.....	95	19	Colocynth	18	7
Buchu	16	3	Cubeb	181	0

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Cumin-seed	153	0	Oil, anise-star	1	0
Cuscus	8	0	cassia	4	0
Cuttlefish	78	20	castor (E.I.)	20	0
Damiana-leaves	5	0	chaulmoogra	3	3
Dill-seed	135	40	cinnamon	36	0
Elema	16	7	citronella	1	0
Ergot of rye	29	0	gingergrass		
Fennel-seed	15	0	(Bombay rose)	16	0
Galbanum	15	0	limes	11	0
Gamboge	10	0	wintergreen	2	0
Gentian-root	51	0	Orange-flowers	5	0
Ginger	3	0	Orange-peel	44	5
Guaiacum	10	10	Patchouli leaves	9	0
Gum ammoniacum	46	0	Rhatany	5	0
arabic	124	0	Rhubarb	367	29
euphorbium	9	0	ground	8	0
tragacanth	5	5	Rose-leaves	1	0
Honey	203	89	Saffron	2	0
Ipecacuanha	57	33	Sandalwood	60	0
Jaborandi	9	0	Sarsaparilla	39	24
Jalap	8	0	Scammonium	11	0
Kamala	12	0	Scammony-root	140	0
Kino	9	0	Senna	301	165
Kola-nuts	20	0	Soy	35	0
Lime-juice	27	0	Squill	53	11
Liquorice-root	40	0	Strophanthus	53	0
Marking nuts	10	0	Tamarinds	56	2
Mastic	14	0	Tonka-beans	27	0
Matico-leaves	19	0	Turmeric (powd'r'd)	20	0
Menthol	1	0	Vanilla	110	91
Musk	13	0	Wax (bees')	1241	156
Musk-seed	2	0	Nux vomica	84	34
Myrrh	25	9			

ALOES.—Only one lot of Cape was offered in auction to-day. It was dark and softish and fetched 26s. per cwt.—a good price. There have been heavy arrivals (96 cases) since our last report, but the goods are not yet landed. Fine brown colour soft Socotrine realised 75s., and for a lot of fair pasty and dark 70s. was bid and refused. Curaçao was neglected, a parcel of 20 packages being bought in at 20s. for part livery and cakey.

AMBERGRIS.—One tin of heavy black sold at 8s. per oz. subject, and a tin of good grey, fair flavour, at 45s. per oz.

ANGOSTURA BARK.—A parcel of the rare false Angostura bark (obtained from a strychnos species in Penang) was offered and bought in.

ANISEED.—Privately, 28s. to 30s. per cwt., c.i.f., is wanted for Russian; German vary from 28s. to 38s. No sale in auction.

ASAFTIDA.—The chief feature of the auctions was the slump in asafetida, the bulk of a parcel previously offered being sold, without reserve, at prices hitherto unknown for this drug—viz., about 9s. per cwt. cheaper for the best lots, which were in comparison with the lower grades very cheap. The following were the prices paid:—Good soft pinky block, 40s. to 41s.; fair, partly pinky, 38s. to 39s.; dry hard grey blocky and stoney, 31s. to 35s.

ATROPINE.—Twenty 1-oz. bottles of Merck's "natural" sulphate was limited at 14s. 6d. per oz.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—For fair unfiltered Maranham 1s. 7d. per lb. was bid and refused, 1s. 8d. being the limit. Two casks from the West Indies, of poor flavour and muddy, sold at 1s. 2d. per lb.

BALSAM OF TOLU.—Business is reported, privately, at 1s. 9d. per lb., on the spot, for good bright quality in small tins. No business done publicly.

BENZOIN.—The only business done was in Sumatra gum; fine seconds, small to medium white almonds, slightly false packed, sold at 7s. 5s.; fair do., 6s. 10s.; ordinary seconds, rather false-packed, 5s., and dull-brown, glassy and barky, 9s. 6d. to 95s. For pea-size Siam siftings of good aroma, 8s. 12s. 6d. was bid and refused.

BUCHU.—Very firmly held in view of the expected shortage. Buyers at auction, however, would not pay the higher prices asked, and the bulk of the offerings was bought in at 7d. for fine green round leaf. What little

sold was fair round green at 6s. 1d.; bold yellowish was limited at 6s. 1d. per lb.

CALUMBA.—A moderate variety was shown, but not a single bag sold.

CARDAMOMS.—The offerings in auction to-day were far from being first-class, much of the fruit being overheated in the curing, so that the colour was in many cases bad, while in others the fruit was very shelly. It would pay the planters to do better. Ceylon-Mysore: Bold pale, poorly seeded sold at 3s. 6d.; medium ditto were limited at 2s. 10d.; one lot sold at 2s. 8d., and a poor lot fetched 2s. 5d.; small pale rounds, 2s. 2d.; mixed sizes sold at 2s. 6d.; medium to bold brown rounds were limited at 2s. 5d.; pale medium longs, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.; and splits and pickings, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. Small to medium brown Ceylon-Malabars were bought in at 2s. 8d. Seeds went dearer, brown, of full flavour, selling at 3s. to 3s. 1d.; and grey at 2s. 8d. For wild long cardamoms 1s. was refused.

CHUTNEY.—Several kinds of E.I. Mango chutney, in 2-lb. bottles, sold a bargain at 8s. per dozen bottles.

CINCHONA.—Of 40 serons Crown bark 4 only sold, at 8s. 1d. for fine sound Huanoco quill, and at 7d. and 6s. 1d. for first-class water-damaged. The bulk of the parcel was held for 8d. per lb., a bid of 7s. 1d. being refused. Good bold Loxa quill was limited at 7s. 1d.; what sold was fair seconds, at 7d., 6d., 5d., 4s. 6d., and 2s. 1d., the latter figure for third-class country-damaged. Good S.A. cultivated Calisaya sold at 1s. 1d. per lb. for sound flat, 1s. for first-class damaged, and 7d. for dark seconds. There was also offered some exceptionally fine E.I. hybrid quill, which was bought in at 1s. per lb.

CIVET.—A parcel of fair to good was bought in at 12s. per oz. Privately, 15s. to 15s. 6d. is asked for fine genuine.

COLOCYNTH.—Forty-four cases have arrived in Liverpool this week. Medium to bold pale Jaffa, partly broken, sold at 10s. 1d.

CUTTLEFISH BONE.—Fine bold white sold at 5s. 1d. per lb., medium ditto 4s. 6d., and broken bone and small sizes at 2s. 1d. to 3d.

DILL-SEED.—Good seconds East Indian sold at 14s. per cwt.

ELEMIA.—For a parcel of good pasty Manila gum 25s. was bid, and refused. Another lot of good soft white sold at 21s. per cwt.

ERGOT OF RYE.—The crop is reported to be indifferent. Privately, good Spanish is held at 9s. 1d. to 10d. per lb., but there is no business doing. Russian is 8s. 1d. The only feature in auction was an offer of exceptionally bold Spanish, for which 1s. 1d. per lb. was wanted. No sales.

GAMBOGE.—Blocky pipe was limited at 7d. 15s. to 8d. 15s. per cwt. Eight cases have arrived per *Hector* from Singapore.

GUAIACUM.—The only parcel offered consisted of low drossy block and woody, which sold at 4s. 1d. per lb.

GUM ACACIA.—Privately small sales of good to fine so-called insoluble Persian gum have been made at 22s. 6d. to 24s. 6d. The stock is reported small and firmly held.

GUM AMMONIACUM.—For bold white tear 35s. was refused; for blocky ditto, 21s. per cwt.

GUM ARABIC.—Prices wanted in auction were:—Pea-grain Turkey siftings, 6s. per cwt.; Trieste pea-grain, 6s. 12s. 6d.; and Aden sorts, 32s. 6d., which figures show slightly easier rates.

HONEY.—Chilian set white was bought in at 26s.; for Honolulu 18s. was refused. Jamaica sold well, good amber syrup realising 20s. to 21s., and a parcel from St. Kitts 20s. Peruvian was sold without reserve at 19s. 6d. to 20s., and another lot of fine set white at 20s. to 20s. 6d.

IPECACUANHA.—Rio root is decidedly firmer, perhaps 1d. per lb. dearer. Good sound root, fair and well annulated sold at 9s. 1d. to 9s. 2d. per lb. For fine picked ditto 9s. 6d. is wanted. Rather thin and stingy damages sold at 8s. 9d. For fine native picked red 9s. 3d. was refused. Cartagena, well annulated, but dusty and broken, sold at 4s. 11d.

JALAP.—Neglected. Small Vera Cruz was held for 5*1/4*d. per lb.

KOLA.—At the spice-auctions six bags of West Indian sold at 2*1/2*d., with slightly mouldy at 1*1/2*d. per lb. Nothing sold to-day.

MUSK.—The shipments from Shanghai during July were 93*1/4* catties made up as follows:—Kobé, 23; Marseilles, 23; London, 17; Vladivostock, 15; Hong-Kong, 8; and Canton, 7*1/4*. The offerings in Shanghai during that month consisted of a few lots of inferior grade. In auction for small old-fashioned pod 47s. per oz. was bid, and 50s. wanted; the limit placed on small to medium damp, Pile III., was 21s.

MYRRH.—Dearer. For pea-grain siftings the high figure of 55s. was paid, down to 43s. per cwt. Dry dark and woody pickings sold at 25s., subject to approval, while good clean bold sorts, of full flavour, were nominally held for 100s. per cwt.

NUX VOMICA.—The exceptionally low price of 5s. 6d. per cwt. was paid for pale sorts.

OIL, CASTOR.—First-pressing Belgian on the spot, 27s. to 28s. per cwt.; January-August delivery, 26s. 6d.; second-pressing, 25s. 6d., ex wharf. Italian firsts were limited in auction at 4*1/4*d. per lb.

OIL, CHAULMOOGRA.—Really fine quality sold with keen competition at 1s. 9*1/2*d. per lb.

OIL, LIMES.—Fair West Indian, but slightly terpentine, was sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 5d. per lb. A fine lot was limited at 3s. 8d.

ORANGE-PEEL.—Only the dregs of stock appear to be available, and 6d. to 7d. per lb. was paid for darkish Maltese strip.

RHATANY.—There was a better supply in auction, including good Peruvian root, and more is available, as the *Oreana* from Valparaiso has arrived at Liverpool with 88 bales on board. Good bright Peruvian is held for 10d. per lb.

RHUBARB.—Rarely has so large a show of rhubarb been made in the Crutched Friars warehouse as there was on Wednesday, but it did not run to quality, and amongst all the recent imports there are only 18 cases of Shensi root. This is now the height of the arrival season, and it is believed that all the new stock is now on the water, perhaps with the exception of Shensi, which is difficult to get to the coast. The offerings to-day were not favourable to the best values. The arrivals this week amount to about 150 cases. Fine bold Canton, part rough coat, fair fracture, was limited at 2s. 6d. per lb., medium round spongy ditto sold at 1s. and hard ditto was limited at 1s. 2d.; druggists' trimmings, poor coat, sold at 1s. 2d.; fair bold flat, poor fracture, was held for 1s. 1d. Good bold Shensi, round, three-quarters pink and one-quarter grey fracture, was limited at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.; flat ditto, unworked, bad fracture and part rough, sold at 1s. 6d. subject, and a less bold lot sold at 1s. 5d. For good medium round pink and grey fracture 1s. 2d. was paid. Good rough pickings sold at 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. Flat high-dried, fair medium, poor fracture, sold at 1s. per lb.; bold flat was limited at 1s. 1d.; ditto, poor fracture and spongy, was limited at 1s. 0*1/2*d.; medium dark ditto, 11*1/2*d. Rough round high-dried pickings sold at 10d. For rough high-dried, of poor coat and fracture, 6*1/2*d. was bid and refused, 6*1/2*d. being the limit; 6d. was also bid for medium round.

SAFFRON.—Dearer since our last quotation, the Valencia price being equal to 45s. per lb. in London, but we hear of no business at that figure, and buyers are disposed to see how the next crop is likely to turn out.

SARSAPARILLA.—The stout Panama root referred to in our last report has been disposed of at full value. We note the arrival of 19 bales this week, including 12 of Jamaica. Values were well maintained in auction, the following being the prices obtained:—Jamaica good fibrous grey, 1s. 8d.; ditto mixed and damaged, 1s. 6d.; dull native red ditto, 9*1/2*d. and 10*1/2*d.; Honduras fine and fibrous, 1s. 6d.; Lima, Jamaica, fair, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d.

SCAMMONIUM.—Some parcels of first and second grade have arrived, but there is no demand.

SENNA.—Tinnevelly sold well at an advance of 3d. to 1d. per lb. for the best lots, and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for the medium qualities. About 700 bales of new crop are due to arrive next week. The following were the prices obtained to-day:—Good medium Tinnevelly, clean and green, 4*1/2*d.; medium, part brown, 3d. to 3*1/2*d.; small to medium spotty and brown, 2d. to 2*1/2*d., and 1d. to 1*1/2*d. for damages. Pods sold at $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 1*1/2*d. Mecca was limited, at 3d. per lb. Privately a few bales of Alexandrian pods have been sold at 4*1/2*d., but beyond that the market continues inactive. The Tinnevelly leaf offered to-day was of better quality on the whole than that offered a fortnight since.

SENEGA.—Good bright root sold at 1s. 2*1/2*d. per lb. Sales are reported at 1s. 1*1/2*d. per lb., c.i.f., for good Western root. On the spot 1s. 3d. is asked.

STAR-ANISE.—Privately butinnes has been done lately at 90s. per cwt., c.i.f. Hong-Kong advices, dated August 6, report that there are no supplies on the spot. The new crop is expected to give a fair yield. For 3 cases of mouldy fruit 7s. per cwt. was bid, and refused.

TRAGACANTH.—Since our last report only a small business has been done, chiefly in thirds and fourths, with a few lower grades up to 95s. per cwt. Firsts and seconds are without demand. A parcel of low "hog" sold at 7s. per cwt.

VANILLA.—The poor assortment offered to-day consisted mostly of Mauritius beans, which sold fairly well at some what easier prices. The following prices were paid:—Mauritius, good chocolate, fine flavour, 7 to 8 inches, 21s.; $\frac{7}{2}$ to 8*1/2* inches, 20s.; 7 to 7*1/2* inches, 19s. 6d.; 7 inches, 18s. to 18s. 6d.; 6*1/2* to 7 inches, 15s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.; 6 to 6*1/2* inches, 14s. to 16s. 6d.; 6 to 8 inches, 14s. 6d.; 4*1/2* to 5 inches, 10s. to 11s. 6d.; finely crystallised, 18s. subject; 7 inches, 17s.; 6 to 6*1/2* inches, 16s. 6d., subject; poor mouldy and foxy and slightly mouldy mixed sizes, 9s. down to 5s. 6d. per lb. Seychelles of fair black quality were bought in at 18s., a bid of 15s. being refused. Other lots sold at 15s. down to 10s. for mouldy. The best lots of Tahiti were also bought in at 10s. and 10s. 6d.; various small lots of mouldy sold at 6s. 6d., 5s., and 1s. 6d. per lb., subject.

WAX, BEES.—An extraordinary supply was offered, and partly sold at full rates. Wormy and dirty Assam sold at 5*1/2*; Australian, grey and yellow, sold at 5*1/2*. 15s. to 6*1/2*; Calcutta, no sales; dark orange Italian was limited at 6*1/2*. 5s.; Jamaica, hard fair-coloured wax, was limited at 6*1/2*. 15s., and good sorts sold at 6*1/2*. 10s. to 6*1/2*. 12s. 6d.; Madagascar, dark yellow and brownish, sold at 5*1/2*. 10s. to 5*1/2*. 15s.; good orange bought in at 6*1/2*. 10s.; Peruvian, good even colour, part mixed, sold at 6*1/2*. Spanish, good orange was limited at 6*1/2*. 10s.; Zanzibar, mixed colours, 5*1/2*. 10s. to 5*1/2*. 12s. 6d.

Coming Events.

We insert notices of association and society meetings in this section free if they are sent to us, on postcards, by the Wednesday of the week before the meetings are to be held.

Tuesday, September 20.

Bradford and District Chemists' Association, Bradford. Annual meeting for election of officers.

Saturday, September 17.

Confectioners', Bakers', and Allied Traders' International Exhibition and Market will be held in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, September 17 to 24. Admission, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1s.; 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., 6d.

At the opening meeting of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, on October 12, an address, entitled "Pharmacy and Parliament," is to be given by Mr. John Harrison, J.P., member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. A good syllabus has been arranged for the other monthly meetings, and the final one is to be a lantern-lecture by Mr. H. Woolley, F.R.G.S.

FATAL OVERDOSE OF MEDICINE.—Peter Taylor, a beetler, of Unsworth, near Manchester, while under treatment for inflammation of the bowels, died on Sunday from an overdose of medicine, exceeding, by two doses, the prescribed quantity.